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A PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
31BF115 AND 31BF117

AND

A PHASE II ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
31BF115

TEXASGULF, BATH CREEK, NORTH CAROLINA

Prepared Under the Supervision of:

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**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Wilmington District

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March 1987

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## FOREWORD

The report which follows was prepared after a long period of background and field research, considerable data analysis and interpretation, and report writing and production. A sizeable team was assembled to carry through the project from the initial field reconnaissance to the editing of the final copy of the project report. Throughout this effort, all personnel strived towards the production of a quality product.

This research effort has made every attempt to properly evaluate the prehistoric and the historic resources that lie buried within the cultivated field and estuary edge of 31BF115. These efforts have concluded that the material culture resources due to both prehistoric Late Woodland occupation and 18th and early 19th century historic period occupation are valuable sources of information, not to be hastily compromised.

To the MAAR Associates, Inc. research team, and to our informants and professional colleagues, I offer my sincere gratitude. I anticipate that the reader will find this a useful contribution to our knowledge of coastal North Carolina cultural history.



Ronald A. Thomas,  
Principal Investigator

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16. Abstract (Limit: 200 words)  Phase I and II archaeological investigations were conducted within the Texasgulf Chemical Company project area, Beaufort County, North Carolina. Two sites were identified, 31BF115 and 31BF117. Both contained prehistoric components and 31BF115 had an historic component. Surface and subsurface prehistoric cultural material deposits, including features, were located at 31BF115. No features were found at 31BF117. In-ground historic structural remains and three possible historic burials were identified at 31BF115.  The prehistoric components in the two sites have settlement histories which are primarily affiliated with the Woodland period, circa 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1650. Both of the sites were mainly inhabited during the Late Woodland period, A.D. 800 to 1650, Colington phase. The 31BF115 historic component appeared to be primarily from the eighteenth century and was associated with early residences and plantations operated near the town of Bath.  31BF115 is recommended to have cultural significance and it is considered to have potential for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Avoidance of adverse impact is recommended, or, if not possible, data recovery research should be undertaken.					
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## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

MAAR Associates, Inc., a cultural resources management firm from Newark, Delaware, was contracted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District to conduct Phase I and Phase II archaeological surveys within a Texasgulf Chemical Company project area in Beaufort County, North Carolina. The project involved a permit application for the construction of a sea wall along the banks of Bath Creek. The two archaeological surveys were completed under Work Order Number DACW54-85-F-3209, Contract Number DACW54-85-C-0037.

As a result of the Phase I survey, two sites were located, 31BF115 and 31BF117. Both prehistoric and historic components were identified at 31BF115. The cultural history at 31BF117 was primarily prehistoric with several historic artifacts recovered. Based on the Phase I investigation results and recommendations, a Phase II survey was requested for the prehistoric and historic components at 31BF115.

The Phase II investigations suggest that the principal prehistoric occupations of 31BF115 were associated with Colington phase cultures in the Late Woodland period. Middle and Early Woodland activity also occurred at the site and there is a possibility that 31BF115 was visited during the Archaic Period. However, the majority of artifacts and food remains recovered from surface and subsurface deposits reflected settlement/subsistence patterns associated with an inland Colington phase base camp at which broad-based food procurement practices were possibly supplemented by swidden agriculture. The subsistence system at 31BF115 has been interpreted to include spring, summer, fall, and possibly winter procurement and processing activities. Although not identified, there is the possibility that an ossuary was established within the village. This was a common cultural practice of Colington phase people in sedentary base camps.

The archaeological data recovered from the historic component at 31BF115 supports the documented use of the site. In the 18th century a series of owners maintained plantations and residences; included were Governor Charles Eden and Edward Salter, a merchant. Two buried structural features are present, as well as human graves. The structural remains may represent the location of the main residence and a waterfront warehouse and pier facility. The human burials relate to the Colonial period and to the late 19th century. The material culture pattern of the data base conforms with the Carolina Artifact Pattern (South 1977), a Colonial residential processual model. Artifacts recovered seem to reflect a socio-economic status that would have been associated with the residence of wealthy landowners.

An evaluation of the data base recovered from 31BF115 has resulted in the conclusion that the cultural resources of this site are culturally significant and that the site has the potential to be declared eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The recommendation of significance and nomination potential applies to both the prehistoric and historic components.

The prehistoric component contains important settlement/ subsistence information concerning procurement and processing practices within Colington phase villages. Subsurface features have been shown to retain their integrity. Investigations can reveal information explaining intra-settlement patterns which have not been adequately explained for the Colington culture. Also, the potential exists for the study of Early and Middle Woodland period settlement practices, and changes in Woodland period patterns within the North Carolina Tidewater region.

The site may impart details of 18th century plantation and residential processual patterns. Associated with these may be social-economic practices indicative of high status ascribed to political leaders, i.e. Governor Charles Eden. Study of the material culture and food remains from the historic component can contribute important information pertaining to the Carolina Artifact Pattern model, social status, and the operational practices of Colonial Tidewater plantations in northern North Carolina. Plantation economic pursuits at 31BF115 can be expected to be interrelated with the commercial enterprises in Bath, the local Port of Entre, and can be compared to those of Brunswick to the south and James River settlements to the north.

Site 31BF117 is not considered to be culturally significant and does not have the potential for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. The context of the material culture record has been substantially disturbed by repeated cultivation of the site. No further work is recommended.

31BF115 will be adversely impacted by the proposed bulkhead construction as currently planned. Data recovery research should be undertaken to recover and interpret a representative sample of the prehistoric and historic cultural records at.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank Mr. John Tankard, the property manager of Texasgulf's Bath Lodge (on Archbell Point) and current lease-holder to the farming rights within the project area, and Mr. Warren Harris, a former farmer on the project area, for their help and cooperation in imparting a wealth of information on the recent history, lore and environment of the Bath Creek site zone. Mr. Tankard also assisted by disking 31BF115 preparatory to a controlled surface collection. Mr. Harris made available to the MAAR research staff a sample of prehistoric and historic artifacts that he had collected on the property.

Richard Kimmel represented the Army Corps of Engineers and was quite helpful in various ways. Professor David Phelps, East Carolina University, provided valuable assistance concerning his previous survey at 31BF115; Colington Phase cultural practices, and regional ceramic typologies. Steve Claggett, John Clauser and Billy Oliver of the Archaeology Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History, provided assistance in research and cultural interpretation of 31BF115. We especially thank them in providing information on their subsequent excavations of two historic graves on the property.

## BACKGROUND

### Nature of the Project

Phase I and Phase II archaeological surveys of a tract of land on the west bank of Bath Creek have been undertaken under contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District (COE). The surveys were conducted to identify, examine, and evaluate the significance of cultural resources in the project area, which is located within the Bath Creek littoral zone, Beaufort County, North Carolina (Figure I-1). Because of continuing Bath Creek shore line erosion, the construction of a 2700 foot long sea wall/bulkhead between Archbell Point and Beasley Point to stabilize the shore line has been proposed by Texasgulf Chemicals Company, the property owner.

### Purpose of the Project

The project was initiated by a Department of the Army/Coastal Area Management Act permit application dated January 21, 1985, from Texasgulf Chemicals Company for the construction of the bulkhead. Previously, the Division of Archives and History (State of North Carolina), during their standard review of a Coastal Area Management Act application, had informed the DOA of the presence of potentially significant archaeological resources in the permit area. Consequently, the State of North Carolina, Division of Archives and History (NCDAH) was contacted on February 25, 1985, and a joint inspection of the proposed impact area was conducted. Work Order Number DACW54-85-F-3209 of the Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers, dated May 25, 1985, was issued to MAAR Associates, Inc. under Contract Number DACW54-85-C-0037 (see Appendix A for administrative documents).

Three sites, 31BF25, 31BF103 (East Carolina University) and 31BF104 (East Carolina University), were already recorded in the general area (Figure I-2). Due to the implied sensitivity of the area, a surface examination of the permit area by involved cultural resource officials was scheduled. The results of that examination and brief historic document research confirmed that the area should be subjected to a Phase I survey to identify and develop a preliminary evaluation concerning any resources which may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Upon completion of the Phase I cultural resource survey, it was determined that more intensive research was needed to; 1) accurately locate the occupational density and the limits of the site in relation to proposed construction activities, 2) verify the integrity of the site, 3) determine the exact nature of the prehistoric and historic occupations, and 4) based on this data, evaluate the cultural significance of historic and prehistoric components contained within the boundaries of site 31BF115. To accomplish the research tasks it was necessary to conduct a Phase II survey (see Appendix A for Scope of Work).

## Project Requirements and Intensity

The Phase I survey, conducted by MAAR Associates, Inc., was designed to meet requirements of the NCDAH for such work in terms of professional qualifications, research procedures, and report presentation. The purpose of the survey was to re-identify known and locate unknown prehistoric and historic sites within the boundaries of the project. Research intensity was to be sufficient to develop a preliminary evaluation of each site's cultural significance and research potential.

Because of the extraordinary richness of the culture resources that were found within the project area the research was extended at the request of the COE. The Phase I survey was accomplished in two field investigation periods. During the second visit, research concentrated on prehistoric and historic resources located in and around 31BF115.

Phase II research is a site-specific level of research initiated to evaluate a site's cultural significance and potential for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Evaluation criteria have been set forth in 36CFR800. The research was conducted to study prehistoric and historic resources and architectural remains located within 31BF115.

## Administration, Personnel, and Schedule

Ronald A. Thomas, S.O.P.A., of MAAR Associates, Inc. served as Principal Investigator (P.I.) for the Phase I survey. Calvert W. McIlhany served as Co-P.I. and Research Associate for the first field investigation, and Bruce H. Dahlin, Ph.D., was Co-P.I. and Research Associate for the second investigation. Supervision for the Phase II research had Ted M. Payne, S.O.P.A., as Research Associate; and Kevin M. Brown, Field Supervisor. Kenneth Baumgardt was Project Historian.

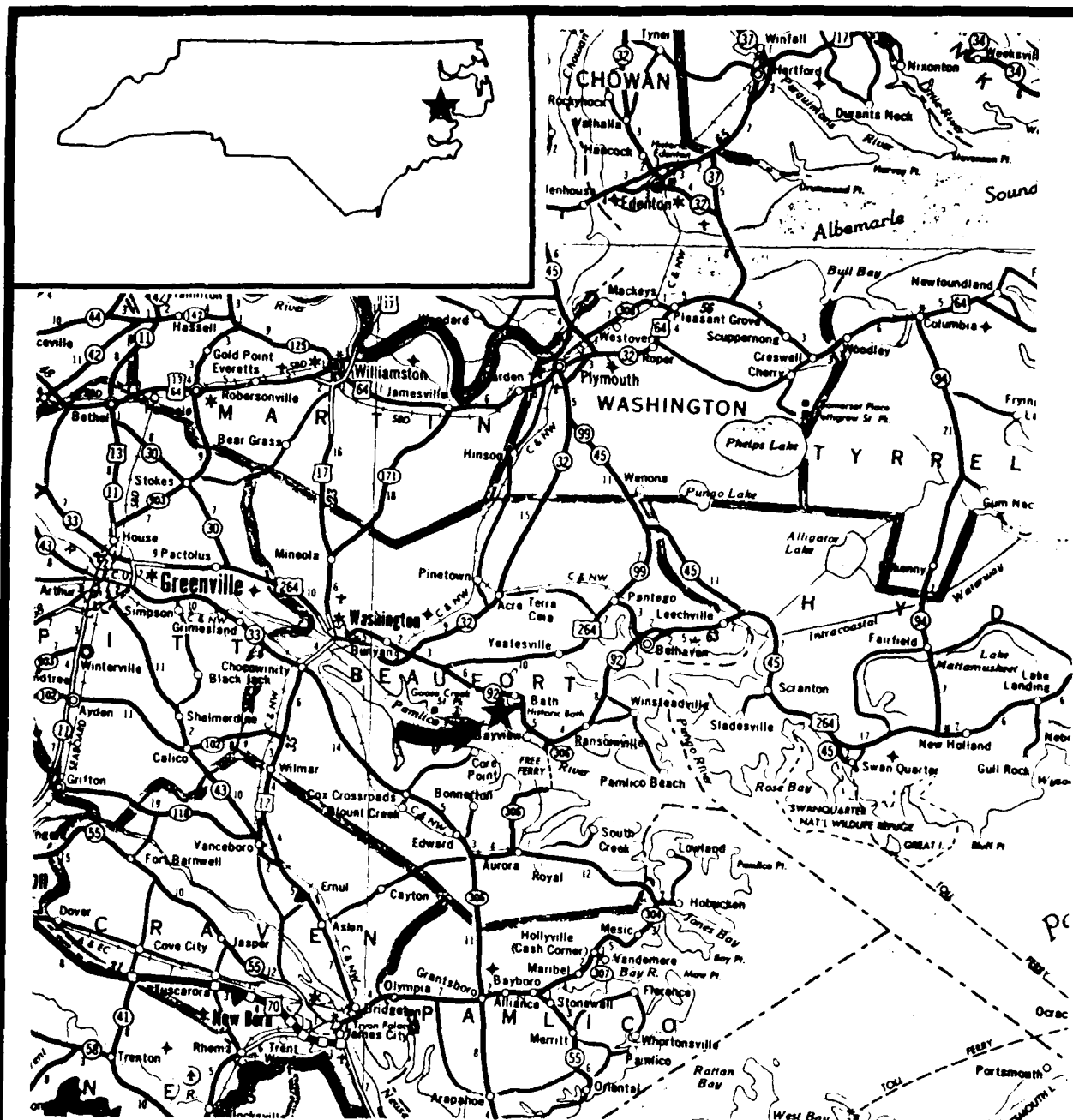
Prehistoric artifacts from the investigations were identified by Calvert W. McIlhany and Ted M. Payne, and historic artifacts by Martha J. Schiek and Inez R. Hoffman. Project Manager was Robert F. Hoffman. Report graphics were prepared by Richard L. Green.

Richard Kimmel served as project archeologist and Richard Jackson as Contracting Officers Representative (COR), for the Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers. The Archaeology Branch of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History was represented by Steve Claggett, Billy Oliver, and John Clauser.

## Natural Environment

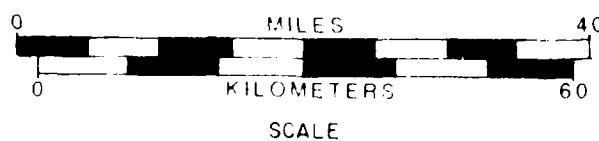
### Location of the Project

The project area is located in Beaufort County, North Carolina. It is across Bath Creek to the southwest of the town of Bath (Figure I-1). As represented on the U.S.G.S. Bath Quadrangle Map (Figure I-2), the project area is composed of a 2700 linear foot strip of land adjoining the west bank of Bath Creek. It is located between Beasley



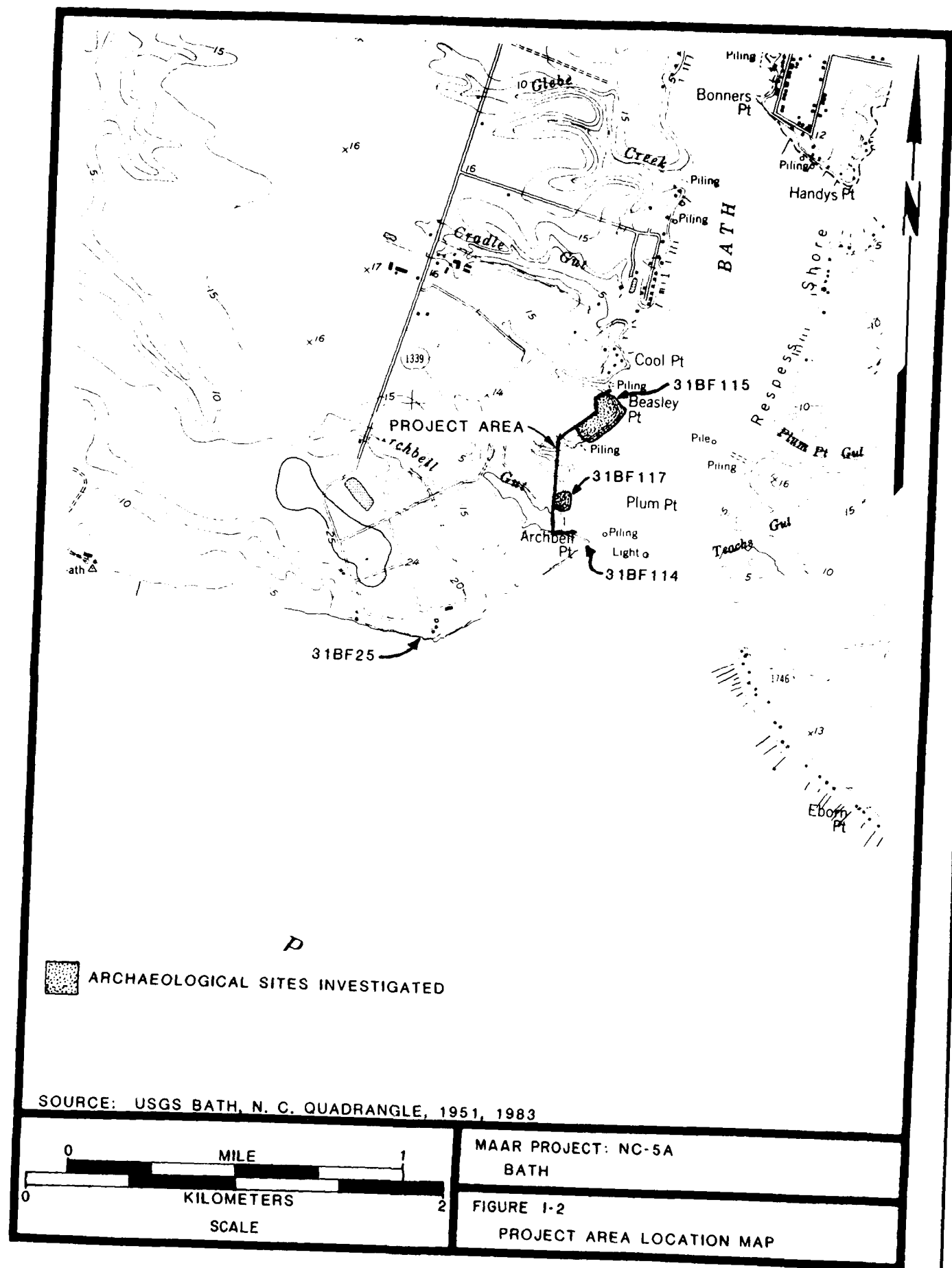
★ PROJECT LOCATION

SOURCE: NORTH CAROLINA TRANSPORTATION MAP, 1984-85



MAAR PROJECT: NC-5A  
BATH

FIGURE F-1  
GENERAL LOCATION MAP



Point on the north and what is labelled as Archbell Point near the creek's confluence with the Pamlico River. It should be noted, however, that long-term residents of the project area claim that Archbell Point is misidentified on the map and should be located on the northwest bank of the Pamlico River, approximately 0.5 miles (0.8 kilometers) to the southwest; the misidentified point remains unnamed according to these informants, some of whom have resided on or farmed the Texasgulf property since before 1949.

#### Current Land Use

The majority of the project area consists of cultivated fields with a wedge of forested wetlands jutting into the approximate center. The northern field is bisected by a farm access road that forms part of a road network which connects the fields and other activity areas. The roadway bed is primarily composed of 0.8 feet (20 cm) crushed limestone with inclusions of fossils. The origin of the fill material is unknown.

Presently, the land is used as a hunting preserve in association with Bath Lodge, owned and operated by Texasgulf Chemicals Company. Under the terms of a lease, the project area fields are cultivated by Mr. John Tankard, who also serves as a property caretaker. Informants recall that the fields have been under continuous cultivation for at least 40 years and were probably cultivated for a much greater period of time (John Tankard, personal communication 1986).

Based on available information, the primary land use practices within the project area during historic time were restricted to agriculture. As early as the first half of the eighteenth century, the land was part of the Salter plantation. Prior to that, Governor Eden had established his residence within the tract. Initially, the land was used for Amerindian settlements which exploited native food sources. At least by the time of European contact aboriginal peoples of local Algonkian settlements were cultivating crops (Phelps 1983:40). Research has confirmed the presence of the Colington phase of this Amerindian culture at 31BF115 and 31BF117.

#### Physiographic Description

The project area falls within the North Carolina Tidewater region, the western section of the Coastal Plain province (Stuckey 1965:6). The eastern boundary of the Tidewater region is composed of barrier islands which separate the Atlantic Ocean from a network of inland sounds. The Pamlico Sound, just east of the project, "...is the largest body of water inside a barrier island system along the entire eastern coast of the United States (Stirewalt and Ingram 1974:1)." The general topography of the Tidewater region consists of low elevation and level terrain. The project topography ranges from the low tidewater line to elevations between 10 and 15 feet above sea level.

## Geology, Soils, and Hydrology

The Tidewater region contains the Pamlico Terrace of marine sediments deposited during the Third Pleistocene Interglacial Period, known as the Stedial Sangamon Interglacial, approximately 100,000 years ago (Bellis et al. 1975:15-16). The topography is characterized by a low-lying alluvial and sedimentary flood plain and the substrate sands in and around the project area are probably bottom sediments of the Sangamon Sea which was formed during the interglacial period.

This part of the Coastal Plain is lacking in inland, natural deposits of rocks. This absence restricted the local harvesting of raw materials for prehistoric stone tool and weapon manufacture. Except for stream deposited lithics from upland sources, raw materials must be imported.

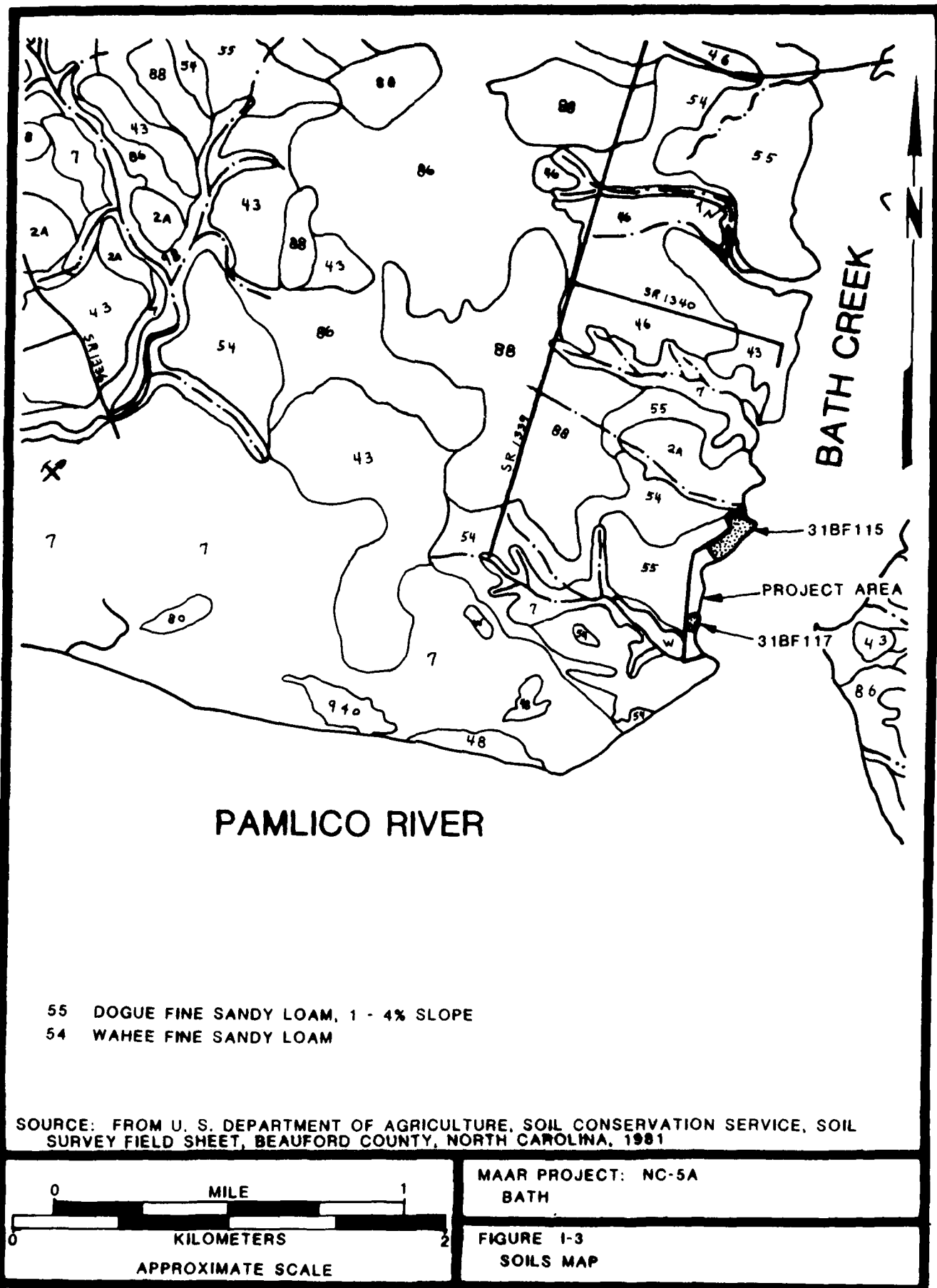
Two soil types are found in the project area: Dogue fine sandy loam, 1 to 4 percent slopes (55) and Wahee fine sandy loam (54) (Soil Conservation Service 1984) (Figure I-3). Dogue fine sandy loam soils are very deep and moderately well drained. It is found on slightly rounded ridges of low marine terraces that are formed in fluvial sediments. Stratigraphically, the surface stratum is a grayish to light olive brown loam extending to an average depth of 10 inches (25 cm). Upper subsoil, from 10 to 24 inches (25 to 64 cm), consists of yellowish brown clay loam and clay. Lower subsoil, 24 to 47 inches (64 cm to 1.1 m), is a mottled yellowish brown clay loam. The subsoil is strongly to extremely acid, 3.6 to 5.5 pH.

Wahee fine sandy loam is somewhat poorly drained. The surface stratum is a very dark gray loam extending to a depth of about 7 inches (18 cm). The stratum is underlain by approximately 4 inches (10 cm) of pale brown sandy loam. Subsoil to a depth of 4 inches (10 cm) is yellowish brown clay loam. The next 29 inches (75 cm.) is a grayish brown clay loam. The soil is strongly to medium acid, 4.5 to 6.0 pH.

Although not subjected to analysis, the soils are in the neutral range, pH ca. 6.5 to 7, according to the Property Manager, John Tankard (personal communication 1986). This alteration from the natural acidity level indicates the area has been subjected to liming by the introduction of oyster and clam shells in refuse deposits from Amerindian activities and/or by soil conditioning in association with local farming practices.

Given the level terrain, its elevation relative to sea level, and a low permeability rate of the soils, groundwater levels are high and drainage is poor. This problem was solved by the installation of tile drains between 1964 and 1967. The depth of these drains averages 3 feet (91 cm) (John Tankard, personal communication 1986).

The soils' composition and deposition profile has been altered by cultivation practices. The two fields have undergone extensive disturbance to upper strata by the repeated plowing, disking, and harvesting of crops. Although modern disking for soybean crops has created disturbance to a depth that is reported to have rarely exceeded





5 or 6 inches (13 to 15 cm), plowing as deep as a foot occurred prior to the 1970's (John Tankard, personal communication 1986). This depth of soil disturbance was confirmed in the profiles of excavation units.

The project is located on the western edge of Bath Creek which is part of the Pamlico River drainage system. The river empties into Pamlico Sound just downstream to the east. All streams are tidal. According to local informants who have dug wells on the property, this part of the Lower Coastal Plain is underlain by aquifers, minimally 12 and 18 feet deep. A clump of trees and wetlands in the south center of the project area marks the location of springs that were active until a drawdown effect was felt from Texasgulf's phosphate mining operations across the Pamlico River at Durham Creek in the 1960's or 1970's. A second water source, a stream, is found just north of the project area. It joins Bath Creek northeast of Beasley Point (Figure I-2). These two water sources appear to be the only fresh water resources available to prehistoric inhabitants of the project area. Colonial inhabitants, like their more recent counterparts, could have used shallow wells.

The shoreline of the project area has an extensive history of alteration by water based erosion (John Tankard, personal communication 1986). A bluff extending from Beasley Point to Archbell Point overlooks the creek shoreline. Except for the wetland area which separates the project area on an east-west line, the bluff is undergoing extensive erosion from elevated water levels. This erosional process has been underway for an undetermined length of time. The present estimate of annual land loss to erosion is 4 to 5 feet (1.2 to 1.5 m) as stated in the bulkhead permit application. Plate I-1 illustrates the effect of erosion on the bluff face. This land loss has led to the dislocation of historic and prehistoric cultural resources in the project area.

#### Modern Climate

Climate is moderated by its proximity to the relatively warm waters of Pamlico Sound and the near-shore Gulf Current. Average summer temperatures are warm (77.1 F or 24.8 C). Average summer precipitation is 17.46 in or 43.6 cm. Winters are mild with average temperatures of 44.5 F or 7 C and an average precipitation of 9.68 in or 24.59 cm. Snow is scant and of short duration. Hurricanes are frequent and often devastating. Generally, the growing season is long, approximately 184 days, and extends from early April to early October.

#### Floral and Faunal Resources

The northern section of the Coastal Plain has experienced a series of climatic changes since the terminal portion of the Pleistocene epoch. In his study of pollen cores from Dismal Swamp, Donald Whitehead (1972:213) has outlined a sequence of environments for the last 10,000 years. A boreal pine-spruce forestation existed until ca. 10,000 years B.P. A white pine-hemlock-northern hardwood forest followed for approximately 2000 years. Circa 8000 years B.P. the present day upland oak-hickory climax forest type with gum-cypress wetlands evolved. The advent of cultivation brought about sweeping changes in the native environment. Only remnants of the original



PLATE I-I: View of Eroded Bluff at 31BF117

forestation remains. Around the project area are small clusters of trees, e.g. Beasley Point, and several cypress trees stand near the shoreline.

The study area is a riparian habitat and is in close proximity to the main Pamlico Sound estuary. In prehistoric and probably early historic periods, Bath Creek would have supported an aquatic food inventory which would have included such mollusks as oysters and clams, as well as fish. Today, only the fresh water *Rangia* clam survives (Red Munden, personal communication 1986). An oyster distribution survey conducted in 1889 reported an absence on Bath Creek (Winslow 1889).

Water-edge species (reptilian, amphibious, avian, and mammalian) would have constituted even more readily replenished protein sources in the past. Moreover, prior to the large scale removal of the native vegetation within the last two or three centuries for agricultural purposes, the area was well forested with species typical of the region at large. Faunal resources would have included deer, dove, quail, muskrats, squirrels, raccoons, turtles, turkeys, etc. The project area also lies within the Atlantic Flyway which seasonally brings large numbers of migratory geese and ducks.

#### Prehistoric Overview

The cultural history of the Native American in the North Carolina Coastal Plain spans Paleo-Indian, Archaic, and Woodland periods into the historic time or European contact (Table I-1). Not until the beginning of the Woodland period is there a cultural distinction between the northern and southern portion of the Coastal Plain (Phelps 1983:16). Although regional cultural patterns may exist prior to the Woodland period, sufficient data is not available to define these patterns. The chronology presented in Table I-1 is specific to the north section of the North Carolina Coastal Plain.

For the purpose of this report, attention will only be given to the Woodland and European contact periods within the northern section of the Coastal Plain. This foreshortened prehistoric description is presented to conform to the occupation history recognized within the project area. The primary source for the prehistory has been taken from the work of David Phelps, East Carolina University. He has been instrumental in researching and defining the current prehistoric interpretation for the North Carolina Coastal Plain.

#### Early Woodland Period (1000 - 300 B.C.)

Like other cultures in the Middle Atlantic and Northeastern region of the East Coast, the northern Coastal Plain Woodland period cultures are primarily recognized by ceramic vessel types within their artifact assemblages. The Deep Creek ceramic type (Phelps 1983:29-31), along with the large variety of Roanoke projectile points, is associated with the Early Woodland (Phelps 1982a:12-13). The large Roanoke type was first defined by Joffre Coe (1964:110).

TABLE I-1

A General Prehistoric Chronology for the  
Tidewater Section of the North Carolina Coastal Plain

Dates	Period	Subperiod	Phase
A.D. 1715 - 1650	HISTORIC		Carolina Algonkians
1650 - 800	WOODLAND	Late	Colington
800 - B.C. 300		Middle	Mount Pleasant
300 - 1000		Early	Deep Creek
1000 - 3000	ARCHAIC	Late	Savannah River
3000 - 5000		Middle	Stanley, Guilford, Halifax
5000 - 8000		Early	Kirk
8000	PALEO-INDIAN	Late	Palmer
12000		Early	Clovis, Hardaway

(Phelps 1982a:10, 1983:17)

A comprehensive understanding of the settlement practices for Early Woodland cultures in the region has yet to be developed. Hunting and gathering subsistence patterns of the Late Archaic are believed to have continued into the Early Woodland. The harvesting of native foods may have been supplemented by the cultivation of domestic foods. If cultigens were incorporated into the subsistence patterns, it is not believed that the effect on the subsistence system was significant (Phelps 1983:32-33). It is hypothesized by Phelps (1982a:12-13) that cultural influences from Virginia and northern areas may have influenced the Deep Creek culture; this is reflected in the ceramic attributes.

Marcey Creek pottery (Manson 1948) has been identified in limited quantities in the northern Coastal Plain (Phelps 1983:29). The ceramic type is common in the Middle Atlantic region. The extent of the cultural influence is not known. From the southern portion of the Coastal Plain and regions further south other influences have been hypothesized based on the presence of Thom's Creek ceramics (Phelps 1968:17-30) and Stallings fiber-tempered ware (Williams 1968:249). It is possible to recover these two ceramics types as far north as the project area on rare occasions (Phelps 1983:27; David Phelps, personal communication 1986). Stallings fiber-tempered ceramics are dated to the terminal part of the Archaic period.

#### Middle Woodland Period (300 B.C. - A.D. 800)

Like Early Woodland cultures, settlement and subsistence patterns for Middle Woodland cultures are not well understood due to the lack of definitive data. Settlement practices indicate an increase in the frequencies of settlements on major trunk streams and estuaries as well as on the coast. Specialized procurement settlements are recorded on the barrier islands and inland in riverine environments (Phelps 1983:33).

Settlement types consisted of semi-sedentary or sedentary base camps as well as small seasonal or transient camps, probably consisting of several extended families. The presence of larger settlements may have been associated with the cultivation of crops. Evidence of maize pollen has been recorded from Dismal Swamp to the north (Phelps 1983:35). Burial practices employed both inhumation and cremation, with inhumation the most common.

Middle Woodland cultures in the northern Tidewater are identified by the recovery of Mount Pleasant phase cultural materials. Mount Pleasant phase ceramics are grit-tempered with a variety of surface treatments. In association with the pottery type is the small Roanoke projectile point (Coe 1964:110-111; Phelps 1983:35). On occasion, Hanover ceramics, a clay-tempered ware, is found in association with Mount Pleasant sites. The relationship between the two ceramic types and cultures is not well understood (Phelps 1983:32-33). Mockley Ware, a shell-tempered ceramic common to Maryland and Virginia, is recovered in limited frequencies, which may indicate northern cultural influences (Phelps 1983:32).

Late Woodland Period  
(A.D. 800 - 1650)

Woodland cultural history extends into the time of initial European contact. Because of this, ethnohistoric accounts can be used to describe the behavioral patterns and linguistic groupings of Late Woodland cultures as they existed during the latter portion of the period. In the northern Coastal Plain, two linguistic-cultural groups were identified at the time of contact (Figure I-4). In the Tidewater area were the Carolina Algonkians and in the Inner Coastal Plain were the Tuscarora, Iroquoian-speakers. Archaeologically, the Carolina Algonkians are represented by the Colington and the Cashie ceramics, the latter being related to the Tuscarora (Phelps 1983:36).

The Colington phase ceramics are a shell-tempered ware with a variety of surface treatments and incised decorative patterns. The Cashie phase included grit-tempered ceramics with various surface treatments and incised decorations. Assemblages from both cultures include the small Roanoke projectile point. Colington phase sites contain substantial numbers of Cashie ceramics which may indicate trading activities between the cultural groups (Phelps 1983:36-37).

Settlement/subsistence patterns in the early part of the Woodland Period were probably similar to those of the Middle Woodland. It is hypothesized that the Algonkian culture habitation of the coastal area extends back to circa 1000 B.C. This date substantially predates the Colington phase temporal span, circa, A.D. 800 to 1650 (Phelps 1982b:1).

Based on ethnohistoric records and archaeological research, the Carolina Algonkians maintained a series of settlement types which included "... capital villages, villages, seasonal villages and specialized camps..." (Phelps 1983:40). Historic records indicate that the Carolina Algonkians were ordered in a chiefdom socio-political organization with a hierarchy of communities (Phelps 1983:40).

Colington phase settlements were located where agriculture, fishing, gathering, and hunting could be achieved by procurement trips within the community's "catchment zone" (Phelps 1983:39). Settlements, although dispersed, were located around "sounds, estuaries, major rivers, and their tributaries." Specialized procurement camps were established to harvest seasonal and aquatic food resources where the locations were at a substantial distance (Whyte, 1986:8).

Archaeological research has identified subsistence inventories which contained "maize, hickory nuts, faunal remains of bears, deer and a wide variety of small animals; alligators, terrapins and turtles, fish and both marine and riverine shellfish" (Phelps 1983:40). Based on historic accounts, cultigens consisted of squash, sunflower, and beans.

Carolina Algonkian socio-political practices are revealed in historic accounts of occupants of Roanoke colony from the middle 16th century (Mook 1944). John White (Harriot 1972:37-74) visually recorded elements of the social order and associated cultural practices. Within



the settlement a mortuary building often was to be found. Corpses of deceased (upper class) members of the political and religious hierarchy of the chiefdom were temporarily retained. The remains were stored until the ritual of interment. At that time the bodies were buried in ossuaries. Archaeologically, the mortuary practice of interment in ossuaries has been established for the Colington phase. The confirmation of socially ordered burials patterns has yet to be established.

Colington phase burial practices consisted of mass burials where both disarticulated and articulated human remains were interred. The age range of the deceased varied, and few grave offerings have been encountered. The location of the ossuary within the settlement plan is still conjectural. At the Baum Site (31CK11), the ossuary was located in the northern section of the settlement. This information may be interpreted to indicate a typical Colington intra-settlement pattern (Phelps, personal communication 1986).

During the occupation of the Roanoke colony in the 1580's, several expeditions were conducted to villages within the Chiefdom of Secotan (Figure I-5). Two of these settlements, Secota and Cotan, appear to have been situated on the Pamlico River. Cotan is located on a tributary of the river. Ongoing research has been underway to locate the settlements, particularly Secota, which is attributed to have been the capital village for Secotan. Dr. Phelps (personal communication 1986) has conducted substantial research pertaining to the placement of these villages, and he believes Secota to be located on the west side of Bath Creek. Both of these contact villages are located in general proximity to the project area.

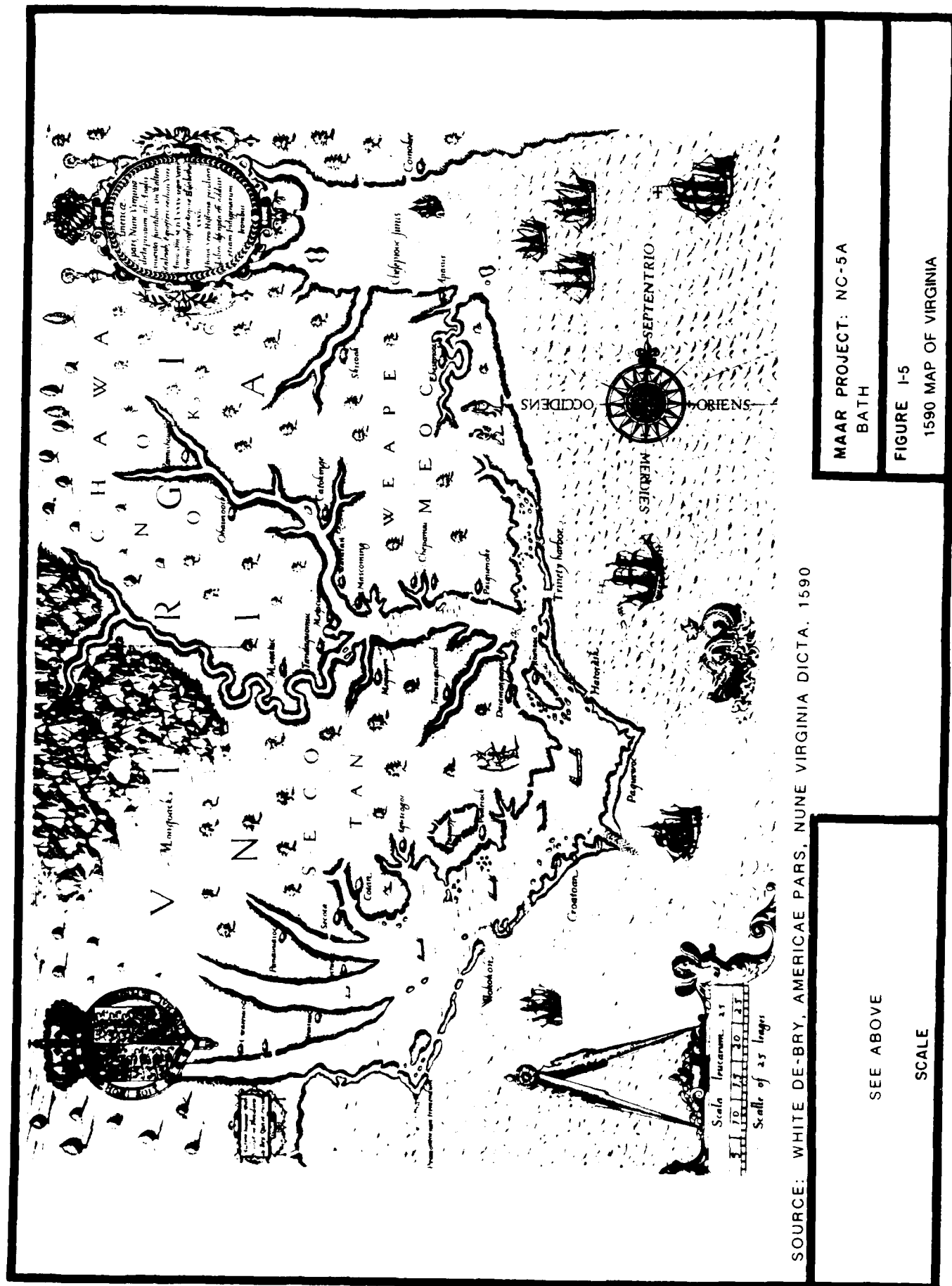
#### Historic Overview

The Bath Creek project area is located on Bath Creek, just north of its junction with the Pamlico River in Beaufort County. It is located across from the town of Bath, and the general history of the project area was directly influenced by the development of Bath Town and its surrounding plantations.

European development of the Pamlico River area began with settlement attempts under the direction of Sir Walter Raleigh. Led by Captain Ralph Lane and Sir Richard Grenville, a group of settlers landed at Roanoke Island, one of the Barrier Islands. By 1585, a colony was founded, and extensive explorations of the region were carried out in the area (Feest 1978:272-273). Included in the explorations was a visit to the Indian village of Secota, near present day Bath Creek. John White's 1585 "Map of the East Coast" places the village in the vicinity of the project area (Figure I-5). This identification comes from the July 15 and 16, 1585 contacts that the Roanoke Colony had with the Indians of the area. White described the town and peoples thus:

Their townes that are not inclosed with poles aire commonlye fayrer. Then such as are inclosed, as appereth in this figure which liuely expresseth the towne of Secotam. For the howses are Scattered heer and ther, and they haue gardein





MAAR PROJECT: NC-5A  
BATH

FIGURE 1-5  
1590 MAP OF VIRGINIA

SEE ABOVE

SCALE

expressed by the letter E. wherein groweth Tobacco which the inhabitants call Vppowoc. They haue also groaues wherein thei take deer, and fields vherin they sowe their corne.... The woemen of Secotam are of Reasonable good proportion. In their goinge they carrye their hands danglinge downe, and air dadil in a deer skinne verye excellentlye wel dressed... The people of this cuntrie haue an Idol, which they call Kiwasa, yt is carued of woode in lenghte 4. foote... (Quinn 1955:421-424)

Other early maps also locate an Indian village in the vicinity of Bath Creek, but most are revisions of the White map and add little to understanding the accurate location of the Secotan villages. In the 1606 map by Gerhard Mercator Hondius called "Virginie Item et Floridae..." the Bath Creek area has the name "Cotan", the name of a village of the Secotan indians. Willem J. Blaeu prepared a map in 1640 titled "Virginiae partis australis et Floridae..." and identified the area with the title 'Secotan'. In 1651, John Farrer depicted an Indian village called Secotan on his "Map of Virginia discovered to ye hills..." A map by Theodoric DeBry identified the same area as Cotan. During the third quarter of the seventeenth century, disputes between the Secotans and the Pomoumik Indians arose and the Secotans were eliminated. In the 1672 map of "Carolina" by Ogilby the Bath Creek area is labeled "Old Feild" (Broadwater et al 1979).

In 1681, Seth Sothel patented 12,000 acres along the north side of the Pamlico River. An Indian village called Pamplicough Town was in the vicinity of Bath Creek. Word of the rich agricultural land of Carolina brought quick settlement into the Pamlico River area. Also during the last quarter of the seventeenth century, an epidemic decimated the Indian population and opened more lands for European settlement. In 1690, North Carolina had a population of a few thousand, mostly around Ablemarle Sound (Merrens 1964:20), but by 1696 the area was populated enough to be established as a county, Bath County (Broadwater et al 1979).

The Indian population continued in the area as the tribes of the Tuscarora Indians. John Lawson, in his travels of the area in 1700, recorded this group as less hostile than other Indian groups, that they were expert hunters, ate crawfish, anointed themselves with "scarlet root" and bear grease, and had an industry, making reed mats for sale (Lawson 1700:65, 165, 174-175, 195).

The earliest settlers in the Bath County area were French Huguenots who settled on the Trent River. Swiss and Germans settled New Bern. In 1705, Surveyor of the Colony John Lawson and others purchased a 60 acre portion of land on Bath Creek and on March 8, 1706 incorporated the town of Bath Town. The land was surveyed and public areas, including a church lot, a market and a commons were established. The sales of the town lots began on September 27, 1706. William Gordon, who visited the town in 1709, wrote that "it consists of about twelve houses and is the only town in the province...I must own it is not the unpleasantest part of the county, nay, in all probability it will be the center of trade... (Broadwater et al 1979)." In the

surrounding areas, large tracts were laid out for the plantations of the area (Paschal 1955:8-9).

In mid-September 1711, John Lawson was captured by the Tuscarora Indians, who revealed their plans to attack the white settlers. On September 22, 1711, the Indians attacked, striking the plantations around Bath Town and New Bern. A hasty call for aid to neighboring colonies was rejected by Virginia, but was responded to by South Carolina. Captain John Barnwell led 33 whites and 495 Indians to the aid of the plantations against the Tuscaroras. Hostilities continued until June of 1713, when the largest number of Indians had been killed. It was not until 1715 that a truce was signed (Broadwater et al 1979).

During the war with the Indians, Bath Town was nearly destroyed. In a letter of 1714, the Reverend John Urmstone commented that "We expect to hear that famous city of Bath, consisting of nine houses, or rather cottages, once styled the metropolis and seat of this Government, will be deserted (Colonial Records, Volume 2:144)." However, with the selection of Charles Eden as Governor for the colony, a new interest in Bath Town was begun. New roads were cut through the wilderness and inter-colonial trade revived. In 1715, Bath was declared the official port of entry for the collection of customs. That year a courthouse was established in the town, and the following year other offices were added, including a clerk's office and an import office. On August 1, 1716, Governor Eden was petitioned to declare Bath a seaport, and a number of naval stores began to be produced on the neighboring plantations, including masts, pitch, tar, and turpentine.

In 1717, Edward Teach, known as Blackbeard the Pirate, decided to establish a residence just south of Bath Town, on Plum Point. He was friend to both Tobias Knight, Secretary of the Province, and Governor Eden. Local residents, knowing that Teach was aided by such high officials, requested aid from Governor Alexander Spotswood of Virginia. On November 18, 1718, Spotwood's men killed Teach at Ocracoke Island and took some of his crew to Hampton, Virginia where they stood trial.

By 1740, the Reverend John Garzia wrote of Bath Town that it had "deeply rooted adultery, incest, blasphemy, and all kinds of profaneness (Broadwater et al 1979)." By 1755, the commissioners of Beaufort County were appointed to build a courthouse, pillory, and stocks on what later became the site of Washington. During the mid-eighteenth century, much of the business of the Bath area was in producing tar. It was exported to England and New England before 1776, and during the Revolutionary War was shipped to Virginia. The shipment of tar from Port Bath, however, was less than that from ports Roanoke, Beaufort, and Brunswick. Much more valuable to the Beaufort County economy was the growing of Indian corn, wheat, hogs and cattle (Merrens 1964:109, 118, 135).

During the Revolutionary War, much of the imported needs of the militia passed through Bath. Following the War, Bath declined quickly as a port town. During the 1750's about 30 ships a year entered Port Bath. By the 1770's the number was down to eight or nine a year.

The decline of Bath is related to several factors. First, the development of inland transportation was more rapid in the northern and central regions of the state, and few roads had been built on Pamlico Sound by 1774 (Merrens 1964:144). The growth of the port at Charlestown and the development of the Cape Fear area began to draw importance from Port Bath. Also, the new settlement of Washington, which had better overland ties to neighboring communities, began to attract the business of Bath. In 1785, the county government was moved to Washington, and Bath's political activity ceased at that point. During the rest of century Bath decreased in population and many homes were left to decay.

During the nineteenth century, North Carolina in general continued to be predominately agricultural. Hog raising and the growing of corn were common in all sections of the state, with cotton growing becoming popular by the 1830's (Johnson 1937:53). However, the general rule of the smaller farms was the production of food crops. As noticed in 1837, "The great mass of our population is composed of people who cultivate their own soil, owe no debt, and live within their means (Johnson 1937:54)." Slaveholding and farm size were both on the decrease in the period between 1800 and 1860. A typical farm in 1860 was composed of 20 to 100 acres. Slaveholdings during this period decreased to a common holding of 2 to 20 slaves (Johnson 1937:54-55). This is, however, somewhat misleading because the percentage of slave owners in the white population was only 27% by 1860 (Johnson 1937:56), indicating that many of the farms were not used for commercial crop production. During the nineteenth century some shipments of naval stores continued from Bath, but even this ended by the Civil War. The production of tobacco was the major agricultural interest in the nineteenth century, along with the endurance of wheat and corn.

Fishing was the main industry of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, with fishermen offloading catches for shipment to Washington and other points (Lawrence et al 1984:10). Bath is currently a summer town, with an active wharf and historical district, but has grown little since its relative demise in 1785.

#### Site Specific History

The Bath Creek project area consists of the easternmost section of a 400 acre tract of land that has been occupied continuously since 1714. Although the adjacent tract of land, now referred to as the Archbell Plantation, was occupied prior to A.D. 1700, the first recorded owner of the property composing the study area was Governor Charles Eden. Eden had been selected as Governor of the colony of North and South Carolina in 1713, and arrived at Bath Town in 1714. He established a number of residences in the area, consisting of several lots in Bath Town and a plantation on the opposite shore of Bath Creek. The plantation of 400 acres included a brick residence.

While acting as Governor, Eden probably conducted some of the affairs of state from his Bath Creek plantation. On December 17, 1714, the Council met at the "house of the Governor", where Tobias Knight, who lived at what was to become Archbell Plantation, was appointed Deputy (Saunders 1886 (2):147)

During Eden's ownership, he maintained friendly relations with another of the town's residents, Edward Teach, otherwise known as Blackbeard the Pirate. There is a local legend that a subterranean passage was cut from the cellar of "the Governor's Mansion" to the steep bank of the creek, so that Blackbeard could enter and depart without being seen (Lee 1974:60). Robert Lee (1974:61) states that rather than a tunnel, there was a pathway of ballast stones leading to the water's edge that was used for this purpose.

It is known that Eden's relationship with Teach caused some concern among other residents of Bath Town. In 1718 several men became suspicious of the relationship between Eden and Teach. Edward Moseley, Maurice Moore and Jeremiah Vail searched the Knight plantation for evidence and found barrels of sugar from the West Indies. They also entered the home of Eden and "...took into their possession the Records of the Government and possessed themselves of all his (Eden's) papers (Saunders 1886 (2):322)". The men were subsequently arrested and sentenced for these "High Crimes and Misdemeanors". Moore, who later owned the property, received a fine of only five Pounds (Reed 1962:50).

Eden, by 1716, had established a second plantation in Chowan Precinct, across from the present town of Edenton (Lee 1974:61). Eden eventually conducted most of his administrative business at his Chowan residence, and moved there in 1718. The plantation on Bath Creek was sold to John Lillington on April 10, 1718 for 200 pounds sterling (Deed Book 1:351). Lillington had lived in the area for a number of years, having had his plantation burned in the Indian massacre of 1711 (Saunders 1886 (2):171). He was also recorded as a vestryman for St. Thomas Parish, Bath Town in 1715 (Saunders 1886:209).

John Lillington did not hold the plantation for long, and it is not known whether he ever occupied the former Eden residence. On September 9, 1718 Lillington sold the 400 acre tract to two men in exchange for three negro slaves (Deed Book 1:348). Stephen Elsey and James Robbins were noted as planters in the deed, but in a later deed they were recorded as mariners. This deed (Deed Book 1:308) records that on January 9, 1719/20 they agreed to divide the plantation in half and each take ownership of 200 acres.

On October 3, 1721, Stephen Elsey sold his half of the plantation to Maurice Moore for 100 pounds (Deed Book 1:442). Colonel Maurice Moore had arrived from South Carolina following a request for aid in a war with the Tuscarora Indians. He arrived at Fort Barnwell on December 12, 1712 with 33 white soldiers and 1,000 Indians to combat the Tuscaroras. They eventually positioned at Chowan, and on February 4, 1713, Moore and his army marched against the Tuscaroras and after a three week siege captured the Indian stronghold at Fort Neoheroka (Reed 1962:73). It is not known whether Moore occupied the plantation on Bath Creek, but he soon sold it to James Robbins. This gave Robbins the entire 400 acre tract that had originally comprised the Eden plantation. James Robbins, in turn, sold the entire 400 acre plantation to Robert Campain on November 12, 1720/21.

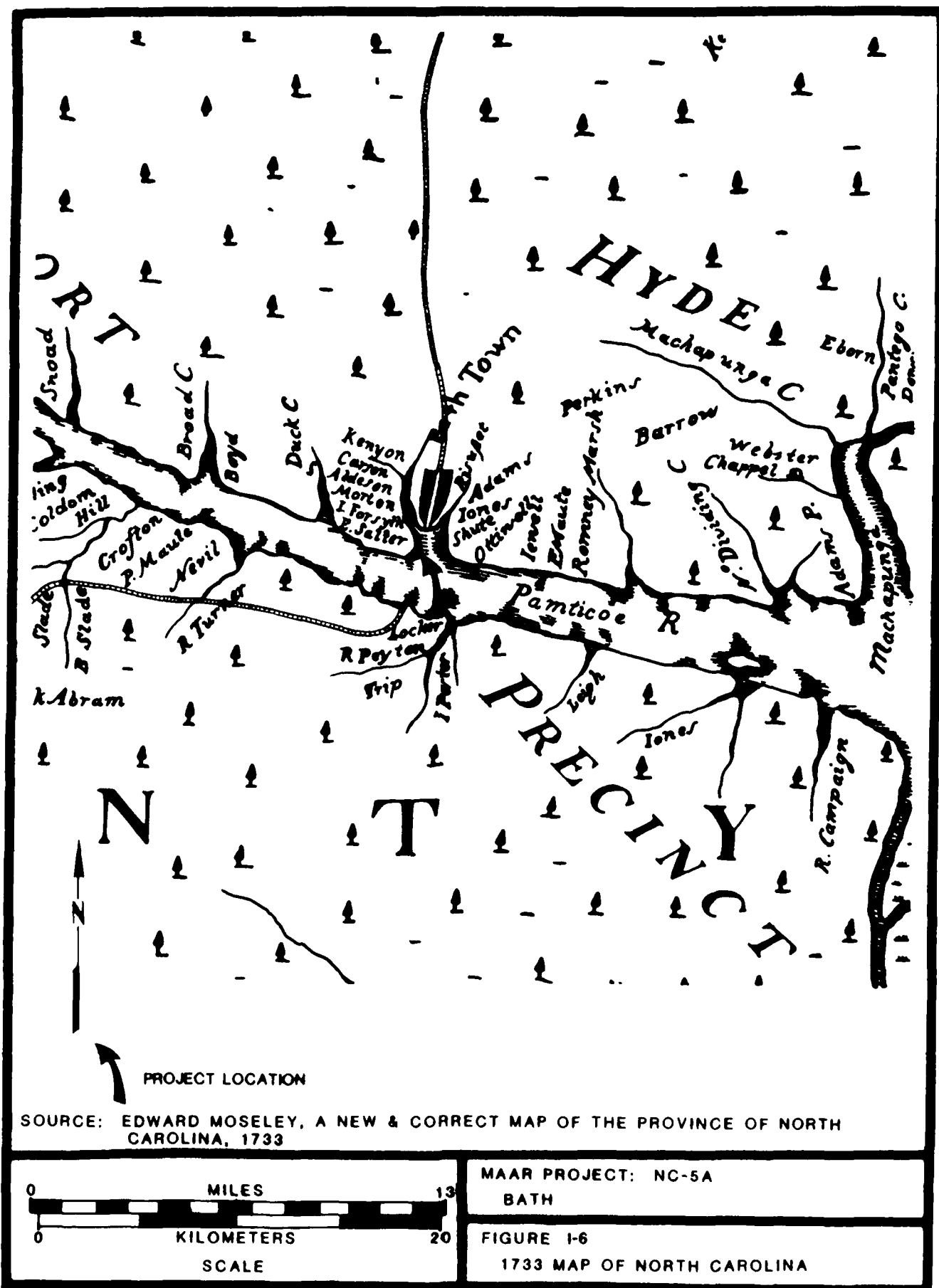
Robert Campain owned the plantation for five years, selling it to Edward Salter on November 12, 1726 for six hundred pounds (Deed Book

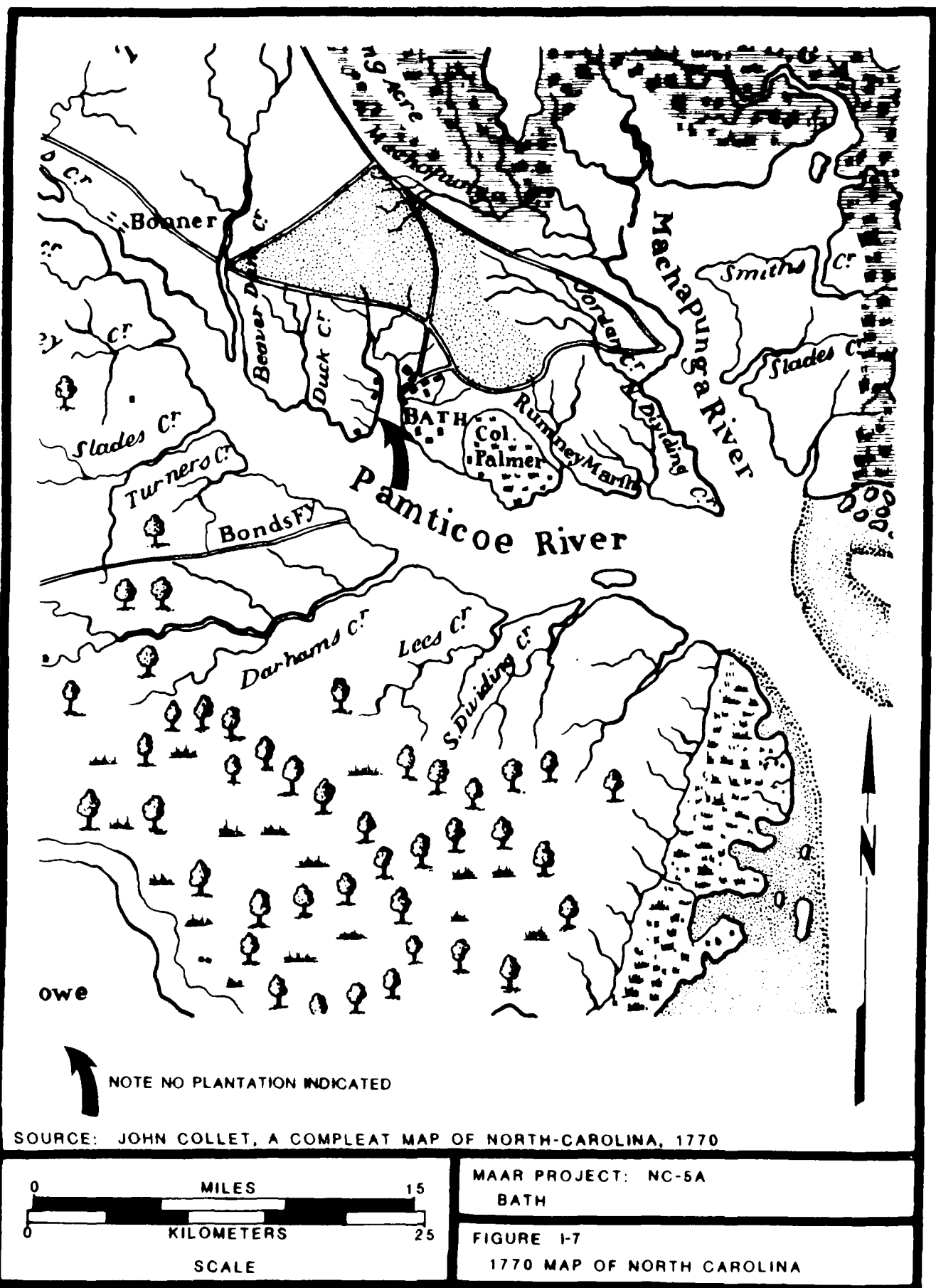
1:536). He is the landowner recorded on Moseley's map of 1733 for the area (Figure I-6). Edward Salter was a wealthy merchant. In August of 1733 he was appointed Powder Receiver for the Port of Bath (Saunders 1886 (4):130). At Edward Salter's death in 1734 or 1735, he passed the plantation to his daughter, Susannah and her husband, William Baker (North Carolina Wills, p 384.) The will also mentions that she received three slaves, furniture, and livestock. They sold the plantation to Edward Salter, a merchant, brother of Susannah Salter. Edward Salter, Jr. followed in his father's footsteps as an important political figure in the county. In 1745 he was elected commissioner to oversee the construction of a road from Chocowinity to the county line (Reed 1962:165)

Edward Salter sold the plantation to Thomas Respass on 15 June 1758 for 260 pounds Virginia money (Deed Book 3:374). It is evident from the deeds that Respass was an important landowner in Beaufort County. He laid out the town of Respass Town, later Washington (Reed 1962:104), and carried out many land transactions during his life. In 1731, he was elected as representative of Beaufort County to the Common House of the General Assembly (Reed 1962:217). In 1764, a list of the taxables for Beaufort County records Thomas Respass, Sr. as the head of the house, with three family members and eight slaves (Beaufort County Taxables 1764). He was appointed as Commissioner of Navigation for Port Bath in 1766 and 1777 (Saunders 1886 (2) 23:667; (24):125). During the Revolutionary War, Respass was selected to oversee the purchase of gunpowder, lead and cannon balls, sail duck, clothing and blankets for the militia of the Bath area (Saunders 1886 (10):646). It is not known if Respass lived on the Bath Creek property; a 1770 map does not illustrate a structure there (Figure I-7).

In 1779, Thomas Respass sold his landholdings to another wealthy person, William Savage. A number of tracts were sold on March 13, 1779 for 31,000 pounds North Carolina currency, including "two certain plantations or Tracts of land containing by estimation 935 acres with all the houses and appertences thereunto belonging lying on Bath Town Creek and Pamlico River which land and Plantation the said Thomas Respass, Sr. purchased from Edward Salter...(Deed Book 5:37)." William Savage was a physician who heavily invested in land. Following his death in 1787, James Ellis of Craven County filed a suit against the estate of Savage for the amount of 621 pounds. The land within the project area was sold at public auction by Sheriff Edmund McKeel on August 31, 1787 to John Lanier to satisfy the debt (Deed Book 6:270).

The Lanier family occupied the plantation through the rest of the eighteenth century. In 1794, John Lanier died and passed the plantation to his wife Fanny Lanier (Will Book D). Fanny Lanier is listed as the head of the household with five children, and eleven slaves (1800 Census:18). In John Lanier's will, the plantation was to be sold following Fanny Lanier's death, when all the children were of age. However, Fanny did not die before the children reached maturity, and the land was sold by the children through Sheriff Edmund McKeel. William Vines, who owned the plantation to the south, bought the 400 acre plantation for \$500.00 on November 29, 1814 (Deed Book 11:128).







William and Sydney Vines apparently lived on the adjacent property and farmed the new acquisition. In the 1820 Census, they had seven children (1820 Federal Census:42). On November 25, 1825, Vines passed the operation, proceeds, and trust of the plantation to Thomas H. Blount for one dollar. In return, Blount was to oversee the sale of the property following the death of Sidney Vines. The money received was to go to the Vine children (Deed Book 13:495). William Vines died in 1830 and passed the property to his wife, Sydney, along with four named slaves and a third of the rest. Much of the estate, which included books, household and farm goods (Records of Estates, Book C-1:349) was sold at auction. Sydney Vines was also left enough items to maintain the agricultural pursuits on the plantation. However, it was Sydney Vines who eventually sold the plantation to Jesse G. Bryan on December 15, 1835 for \$1200.00 (Deed Book 20:221).

Jesse G. Bryan owned the property until March 19, 1846, when he sold it to Thomas D. Beasley for \$800.00 (Deed Book 25:259). It then consisted of 380 acres. In the 1850 Population Census, page 367, Thomas Beasley is listed as single with real estate valued at \$1140.00. The Agricultural Census for 1850, page 641, records 40 acres improved land, 340 acres unimproved land, cash value \$1000.00, value of farming implements, \$20.00, 1 horse, 2 mulch cows, 1 working cow, 3 other cattle, 1 head of sheep, 24 swine, value of livestock \$150.00, 50 bushels of wheat, 250 bushels of corn, 8 bushels of oats, 100 bushels of sweet potatoes. His farm included the owning of four slaves in that year. By 1860, however, his growth in wealth is evidenced by the census of that year. He had gotten married, and had four children. The land is valued at \$1500.00, and his personal estate at \$1300.00. The slave records for that year record that the following slaves were owned: three females, aged 38, 32, and 6, and five males, aged 14, 14, 1, 9, and 3 (1860 Census:129). There was an evident decrease in wealth following the cessation of the Civil War. To insure that his lands were not taken from him by Northern "carpetbaggers", Beasley applied for a minimum amount of land as his homestead in 1869 (Deed Book 33:353).

To William J. Archbell, William R. Boyd, and William Lodge... Thomas D. Beasley...having applied to me to take the benefit of the Homestead and Personal Property Exemption, as granted by Article 10 of the Constitution of this state...Three above named to meet at Beasley property and lay out his homestead (page 354) Allot to the said Thomas D. Beasley, according to his direction, the following property as a homestead, in the County aforesaid, and of the value of six hundred dollars, by metes and bounds...367 acres...also selected articles of \$387.00 ...all his household furniture and kitchen furniture, 2 horses, 19 head cattle, 2 carts, 1 buggy, 1 sow and pigs, cooking utensils, two beds and furniture, 2 chairs, 2 tables, farming utensils, one saddle, one skiff, one pan, and one scythe.

The 1870 Population Census for Beaufort County, page 46, records that at that time the Beasley family was composed of Thomas, age 59, Sarah, age 48, and children William (16), John (14), Thomas (12), Liney (10), and Annie (6). Thomas was a farmer and his three oldest sons assisted him on the farm. All but the youngest child could read and

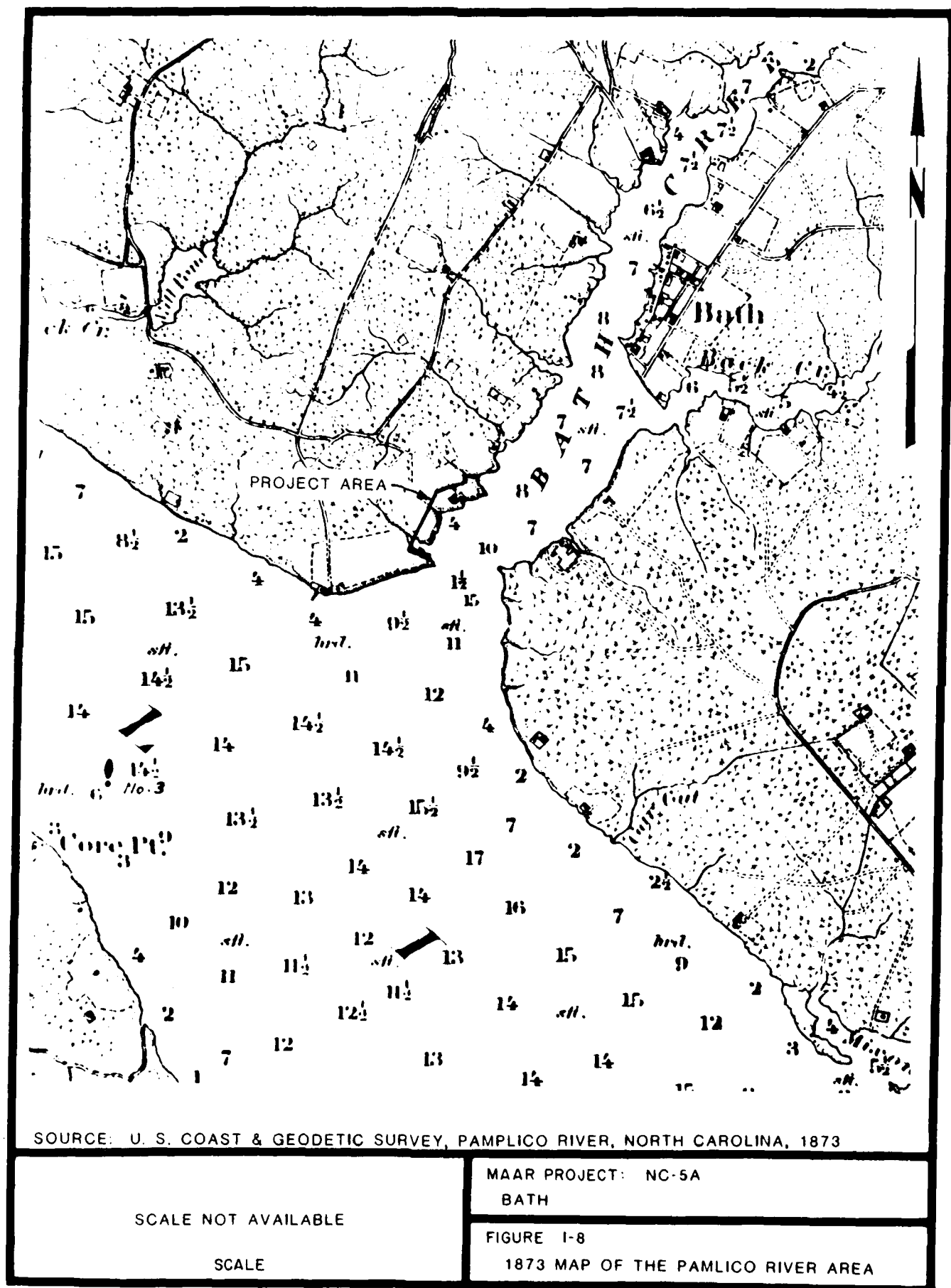
write. The land was valued at \$1100.00, and his personal estate at \$800.00. Beasley's child Elizabeth, listed in the 1860 Census, must have died young because she does not appear on the 1870 Census. A surviving 1873 Coastal and Geodetic Survey map of the area illustrates nine structures surviving in the project area, probably the fullest extent of the Beasley estate (Figure I-8). Following Beasley's death in about 1872, Annie D. Crawley appealed to the Superior Court for a portion of Thomas D. Beasley's lands on March 19, 1882 (Estate Records, Thomas D. Beasley file). Land was sold at a public auction May 29, 1882 to John R. and William H. Beasley for \$2200.00. A copy of the original newspaper advertisement in that file reads,

"NOTICE! By virtue of a decree of the Superior Court of Beaufort County, I shall sell for cash, at the Court House door in the town of Washington, on the 29th of May, 1882, at 12 N., tract of land in Bath Township, on Bath Creek, adjoining on the south the lands of W.J. Archbell, on the west the Stickley land, on the north the land of Jno. Ward, on the east Bath Creek, being the lands whereof Thos. D. Beasley died seized. Jas. E. Shepperd, Commissioner (Estate Records, Thomas D. Beasley file).

As a result of this auction, Shepperd sold the land to John R. Beasley and William H. Beasley on June 2, 1882 (Deed Book 53:312). The land continued to be involved in court battles, and the final result was that John R. Beasley gained possession of the plantation in a deed dated January 30, 1883 (Deed Book 54:44). John and William Beasley were apparently wealthy investors in the region. A number of deeds record them as owning numerous tracts in Bath Town, including wharfs, cotton gins, and tenant estates. By this time, the project area was probably used as one of the tenant farms that John Beasley owned.

John Beasley owned the lands until in 1899. The plantation was held in trust by Thomas H. Blount, who sold it at a public auction to John D. Blount on September 27, 1899 (Deed Book 104:495). John Blount had served during the Civil War, as Second Lieutenant in Rodman's Second Artillery (Reed 1962:177). On November 10, 1900, John Blount sold the lumber rights on the plantation to the Roanoke Railroad and Lumber Company for \$1400.00 (Deed Book 109:391). On December 24 of that year, Blount sold the tract of 380 acres to Beauron C. Roper for \$1300.00. It was called at the time the Thomas D. Beasley Home Tract. This deed was subject to the earlier agreement with the Roanoke Railroad and Lumber Company for the removal of trees (Deed Book 110:220).

On October 31, 1904, Beauron Roper sold the tract to Harry N. Roper for \$1500.00 (Deed Book 130:533). Harry Roper, in association with Nancy Roper, S. Roper, and Dr. C.C. Jackson, sold the timber rights on the land to the Kugler Lumber Company for \$900.00 on October 27, 1906 (Deed Book 142:314). The agreement read that they "do hereby convey unto the said Kugler Lumber Company all the pine and poplar timber of and above the size of twelve inches in diameter at the base ... containing 380 acres more or less and known as the Old Thomas D. Beasley Home Tract." A 1917 U.S.G.S. map of the area shows one



structure, possibly a tenant house, and probably the old Beasley homeplace, surviving on the land at that time (Figure I-9).

On September 13, 1926, Frank C. Kugler and the Kugler Lumber Company sold the now 304.17 acre tract to J. E. Archbell (Deed Book 266:85). Archbell was living and farming the adjacent plantation on the south. On December 14, 1928, Archbell sold the tract to his son, R. H. Archbell, for \$1000.00 (Deed Book 247:241). It included 'all the stock, team, and farm equipment on the above farm known as the 'Beasley Farm' and on the adjoining farm known as the 'Archbell Farm'. It is the intention hereof to convey said stock, team and farm equipment as fully and completely as if each and every article was named in detail."

R. H. Archbell farmed the land until December 30, 1974, when he sold it to Texasgulf, Inc. (Deed Book 717:823). It is listed in the Beaufort County Tax Supervisors Office, Washington, N.C. that the owner on record for the property Texasgulf Sulfur Co., Lot 7-L-11, composing 431.8 acres of land. The property is currently being used as part of a hunting preserve and is tenant farmed.

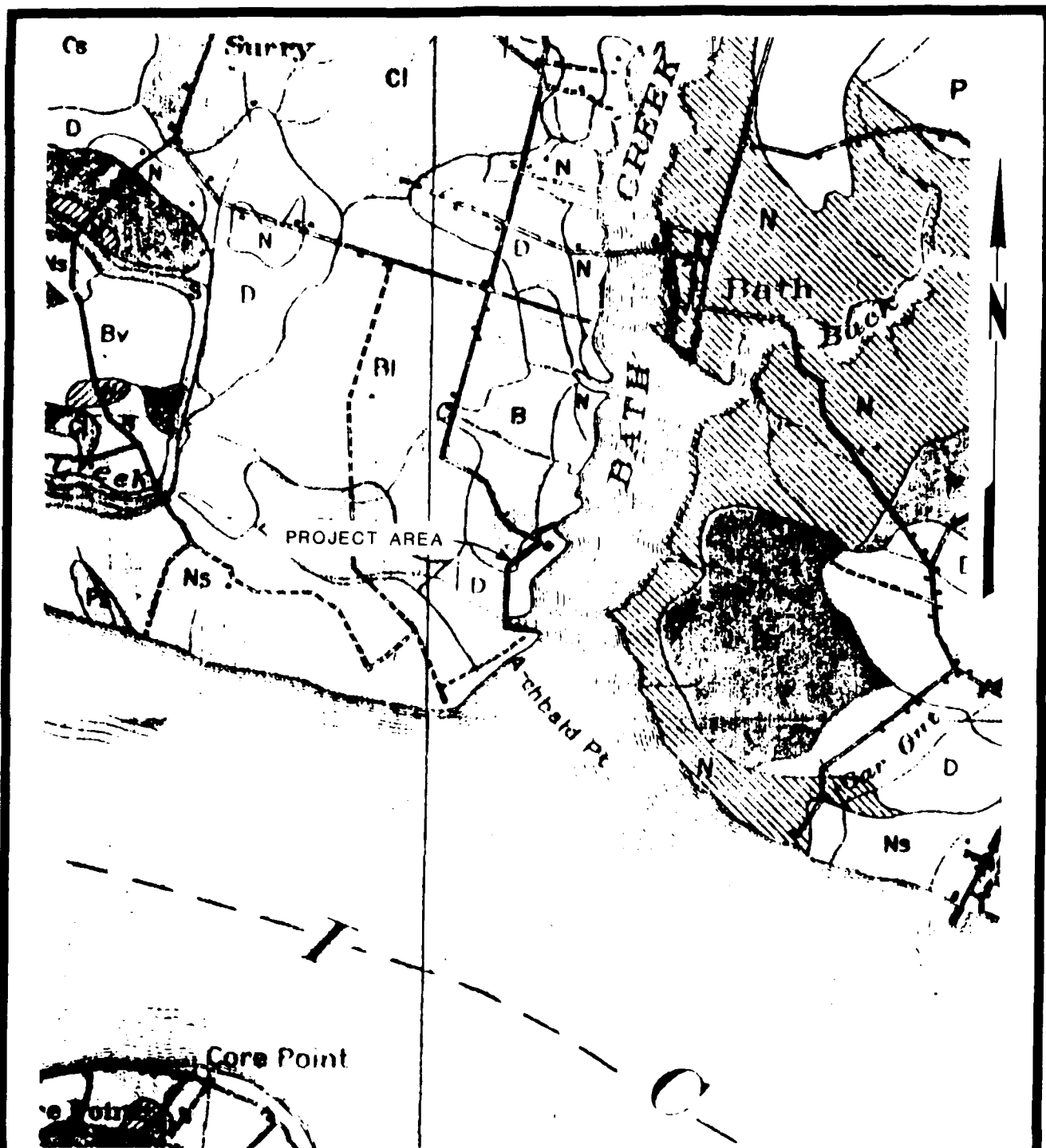
#### Previous Investigations

Previous investigations within or near the project area include work conducted by Stanley South, Cheryl Claassen, David Phelps, and a brief site reconnaissance by members of the staffs of the Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers, and the Division of History and Archives of the State of North Carolina. All of these investigations were personally witnessed by Mr. Warren Harris, a local farmer, who has previously cultivated the lands within which the project area is located. During this time, he had explored the project area and identified sites and collected surface artifacts. In addition to his collecting, historical research conducted by Mr. Harris has helped define the sites. The following information, given to MAAR Associates by Mr. Harris has proved useful.

An offshore aboriginal feature, described by Mr. Harris, appears to have been a chipping station with chunks and flakes of greenish blue or gray rhyolite. This feature was located near 31BF115, close to shore; unfortunately, a more precise location could not be provided.

Mr. Harris also reported the existence of brick foundations for a house, reputed to have belonged to Governor Eden. This foundation cannot now be seen on the surface, but Mr. Harris indicated that it was well out of the project area, 400 to 500 meters north of the brick ruins located on the bank of Bath Creek. He alleged that the building was identified as early eighteenth century by Stanley South in the 1950's. Mr. Harris also informed us that he once used a backhoe to excavate the basement of this building.

Stanley South (personal communication 1986) was contacted by the investigators to obtain information pertaining to his research. According to his memory, the house investigated was located out of the project area and situated on the east side of Bath Creek. However, a letter from Mr. South to the Director of the Division of Archives and History, written when he was a member of the staff of the Division,



SOURCE: SOILS & CONSERVATION MAP, 1917

SCALE NOT AVAILABLE

SCALE

MAAR PROJECT: NC-5A

BATH

FIGURE I-9

1917 SOILS MAP

indicates that the building east of Bath Creek was allegedly that of Edward Teach and that he was also taken to the project area where he briefly investigated the ruins of the building eroding out of the bank of Bath Creek within the project area. His letter stated that he thought this structure dated to the same time period as the alleged Edward Teach structure (letter on file at the Archaeology Branch, Division of Archives and History).

A report on underwater investigations conducted in Bath Creek for the Division of Archives and History (Lawrence et al. 1984) identified three historic features located near shore off the project area. During the work, conducted in 1979, the research team identified a shell midden, brick ruins, a ballast dump, and a pier site. A prehistoric shell midden was reported at Beasley Point. The site was reported to be a thick oyster shell concentration. Prehistoric ceramics, a few lithic artifacts, a split deer cannon bone, and a portion of a kaolin pipe were also found on the beach 83 ft (25 m) south of Beasley Point. It was presumed that these items eroded out of the embankment as the shoreline progressively migrated inland here.

The brick ruins lay at the base of a high, thickly vegetated bank (trees, bushes, vines, and other brambly herbaceous plants) along Bath Creek. It is reported as a redeposited 26 X 7 ft (7 X 2 m) concentration of brick rubble, some still mortared together. At that time the intact foundation above the rubble had not been identified.

The uplands in the immediate vicinity of the brick ruins and the ballast dump site were reported to have several concentrations of shell midden and very light scatters of oyster shell, historic glass, ceramic sherds, and brick fragments; the lack of rain was said to have obscured many artifacts such as prehistoric ceramics.

The ballast dump, recorded by ECU as the Ballast II Landing Site (U/W 0003BAR), was identified in 1979 as a suspected colonial landing area. The feature was reported to have been a linear pile of basketball to pea size ballast fragments, extending from 15 ft (5 m) from shore to 140 ft (43 m) out from (perpendicular to) the shore. Historic ceramics, pipe stems, and numerous potsherds were collected on the beach and in shallow water between the shore and the ballast.

The pier or Iron Rail Landing Site (U/W 0004BAR), was also identified by Lawrence et al. (1984). It is reported to be a line of remnant pier pilings with iron rails and iron debris in amongst the pilings and two sections of iron pipe where the pier would have made landfall just north of a forest-covered springs area. It was suggested that this feature may be the remains of a turn-of-the-century logging operation. No associated artifacts were seen.

In 1980, Professor David Phelps (personal communication 1986) conducted a general surface survey at 31BF115 (his site number 31BF104). The survey recovered prehistoric and historic artifacts (Phelps 1982b:46). He identified aboriginal Colington ceramics along with colonial material.

## Research Goals

The goal of the Phase I research was to locate and identify cultural resources in the project area that might be adversely impacted by the construction of the proposed bulkhead. Sufficient data was secured to allow for a preliminary assessment of the research potential and the historic significance of the project area.

The Phase II goals were to conduct research to recover sufficient data for a full evaluation of cultural significance and National Register of Historic Places eligibility. The research potential for the prehistoric and historic components located in 31BF115 was also a goal of the Phase II investigations. If the Phase II evaluation resulted in a recommendation of eligibility, a National Register of Historic Places nomination form or forms were to be completed. An assessment of the potential impact to the site was also to be determined and management recommendations prepared.

## Strategy of Research

The field research employed for the Phase I investigation was conducted during two separate periods. The second field period was requested by the Corps of Engineers due to the unexpected number and complexity of cultural resources present in the project area. Standard procedures that are part of any archaeological research project were followed as the Phase I research evolved.

Ground surface visibility was excellent over most of the project area due to recent cultivation. For this reason a surface survey, combined with judgmentally placed shovel tests and measured excavation units, was deemed the most appropriate research strategy for locating and identifying the cultural resources during the first field visit. After synthesis of the initial data base, it was possible to hypothesize material culture distributional patterns identifying prehistoric and historic activity areas. The second field visit was requested to investigate these activity areas and further evaluate the subsurface feature preservation (see Appendix A for Scope of Work).

Based on the evaluation of the Phase I research, it was determined that the prehistoric and historic components at 31BF115 were likely to have cultural significance and research potential. To evaluate the potential, a Phase II level of research was necessary.

Phase II investigations required the scheduling of several field tasks, designed to 1) determine the boundaries of the prehistoric and historic components; 2) determine the nature of the integrity of the artifact and feature context; and 3) develop a data base sufficient to evaluate the cultural significance of the prehistoric and historic resources. To achieve these goals the following tasks were undertaken.

1. A controlled surface collection was completed.
2. Shovel tests and measured units were excavated.
3. Top soil from transects was mechanically stripped to reveal subsurface deposits and cultural features.
4. A representative sample of features were excavated.

## DATA BASE

### Data Acquisition

#### Phase I

The first segment of the field investigations began with the surface reconnaissance of a study area which extended inland 655 ft (200 m) from the creek shoreline. The survey was conducted by walking transects separated at 65 ft (20 m) intervals. Ground visibility was excellent. The project area lies predominantly in freshly plowed, open fields which, at that time, had not yet been planted. Artifact concentrations were pin-flagged to identify distributional patterns. There was a high frequency of surface prehistoric and historic artifacts at 31BF115. For this reason, artifact distribution was recorded in northern, central, and southern units. The access road bisecting the field separated the central and southern units and a near-shore swale divided the central and northern units. At 31BF117 the frequency of artifacts from the surface collection was low.

The surface concentrations of prehistoric and historic artifacts allowed for the defining of isolated loci for subsurface testing. A total of ten excavation units and ten shovel tests were excavated in the isolated loci. All units were mapped by tape and/or transit. The excavations identified both prehistoric and historic features.

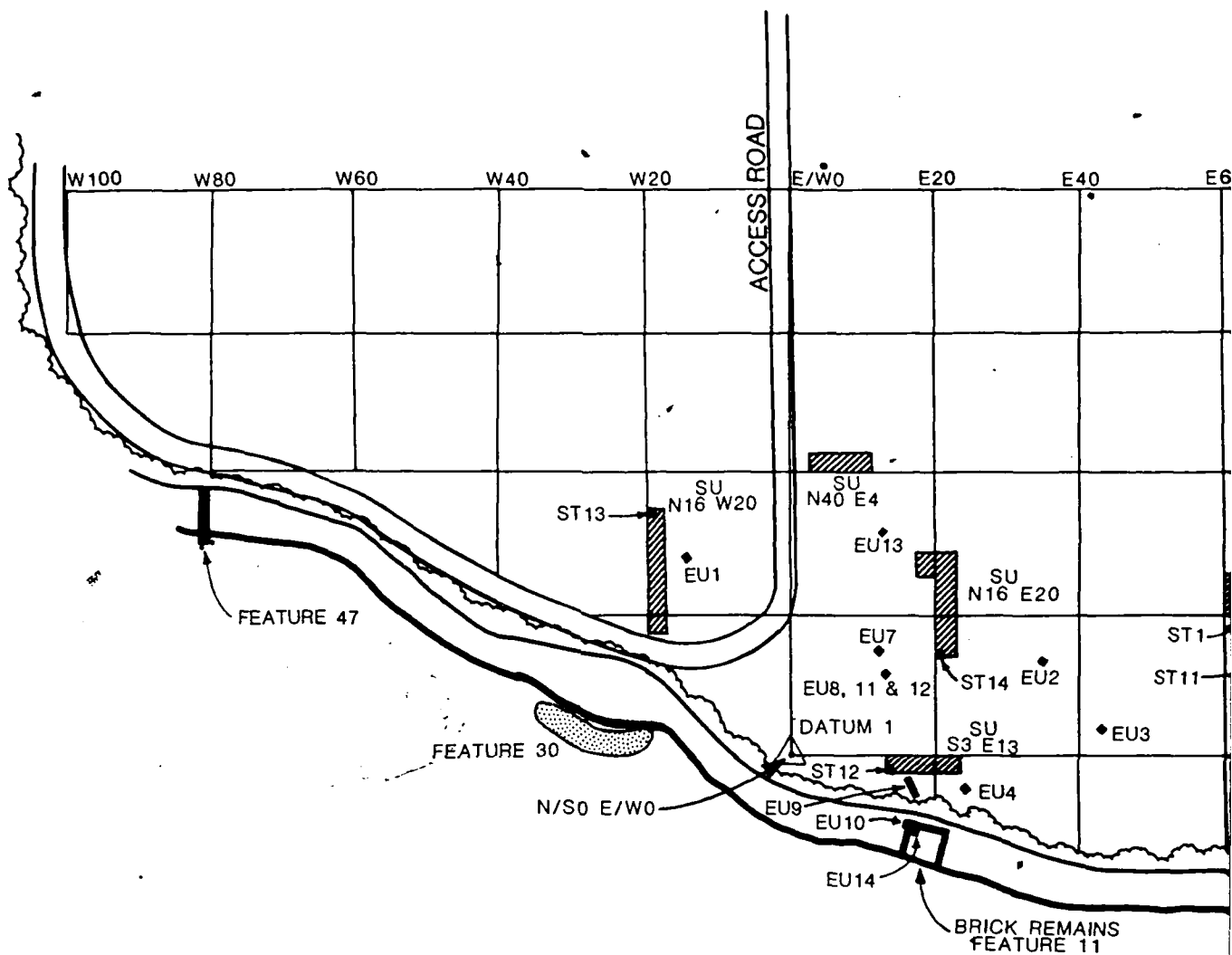
By the beginning of the second field investigation the field had been planted in soybeans, but ground surface visibility was still excellent. A general walkover of the project area was conducted to acquaint the new crew with existing conditions and anticipated subsurface remains. The second research team was directed (upon instructions from the Corps of Engineers) to determine the nature of the brick ruins, the ballast dump, and the pier or Iron Rail Site. Also, additional excavations were requested to identify and examine features associated with the dense frequency of surface artifacts in the central unit of 31BF115. Six excavation units were placed in areas of highly concentrated prehistoric surface cultural materials, and one excavation unit was placed in the southwest interior corner of Feature 11, the brick foundation.





#### Phase II

At the request of the Corps of Engineers, a Phase II survey of both the prehistoric and historic components at 31BF115 was conducted. Preparatory to commencing field work, a project area map was prepared by taped and transit bearings. The previous surface collection and excavation units were recorded on the project map (Figure II-1).

Although a surface collection had previously been completed for 31BF115, the collection units consisted of relatively large zones. To identify more refined distributional patterns, a grid was established over the plowed area of the site, i.e. from the woodline at the northern shore line to the woods and wetland on the south. Its eastern boundary was the tree line adjoining the shore line, and units extended





-  STRIPPED AREAS
-  SHOVEL TEST
-  EXCAVATION UNIT
-  SHELL CONCENTRATION

BATI

0 10 20



inland to a maximum of 395 ft (120 m). Units measured 65 ft (20 m) per side.

Unit size was selected based on the fact that topsoil disturbance, due to plowing over the last several decades had altered artifact distribution patterns. Although altered, artifact distribution patterns may retain general spatial integrity and correlate with buried cultural remains. For this reason, it was determined that an intensive surface collection to record distributional patterns was appropriate.

To evaluate the contextual integrity of the cultural record of each component, it was necessary to examine buried and relatively undisturbed cultural deposits. Excavations were placed in the plow disturbed field and in the woodland at Beasley Point. An examination of the face of the bluff on the eastern shoreline of Beasley Point had determined that artifacts were present at the interface of the top and subsoils. The wooded area was shovel tested to determine if subsurface cultural deposits were present.

To further determine the extent and contextual integrity of cultural remains within the cultivated field, it was necessary to use earth moving machinery to remove the plow-disturbed soil. A number of six 10 ft x 50 ft (3 x 15 m) transects were laid out in culturally sensitive areas across the cultivated field (Figure II-1). A seventh was planned to investigate the northern area, but wet ground conditions prohibited the entry of the gradeall into the area. Transects were altered in form by the limitations on the gradeall due to wet soil and by the need for greater ground exposure to examine buried features.

Prior to the stripping of each transect, a shovel test was excavated to establish the soil profile and reveal the depth of subsoil. Plow disturbance had been determined to extend to a depth of 1.0 ft (30 cm). The soil stripping process proceeded with the removal of approximately 0.33 ft (10 cm) levels until the interface was approached, at which time levels were reduced to under 0.1 ft (2.5 cm). When cultural features were encountered, machine removal of soil was stopped and hand tools were employed to complete the process.

Upon completion of the stripping process, the exposed surface was cleaned by flat shoveling and hoeing followed by dressing by trowel where necessary. Features were cleaned, typed (if possible), and recorded on transect plan views. Several feature types were sectioned and one was completely excavated.

Throughout both the Phase I and II investigations, all excavations, except stripping, employed one-quarter inch hardware cloth to sift removed soils. Excavation methodology was by soil and cultural stratigraphy and intervening levels. Artifacts and associated materials were bagged and catalogued according to their respective spatial provenances. Excavations and associated cultural remains were photographed and further recorded by drawings and field notes.

## Data Description

### Natural Soil Stratigraphy

The natural soil stratigraphy throughout the project area is typified by Unit 8, 31BF115, located near the southwest (datum) corner of the site (Figure II-1). Soil horizon identifications were made by field staff and soil color was recorded using the Munsell Color Chart.

TABLE II-1

#### Generalized Project Area Soil Profile

Horizon	Depth (cm)	Description
Ap1	0-16	Grayish brown (10YR 5/2) sandy clay loam. Structureless, single grain; loose consistency; neutral to slightly alkaline; clear, smooth boundary.
Ap2	16-21	Dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2) sandy clay loam. Structureless, single grain to weak, fine, subangular blocky; friable to slightly friable consistency; abrupt to clear, smooth boundary except wavy where plow-scarred. Plow zone dating to period of deeper disking.
A3	21-26	Same as above.
B1	26-38	Light yellowish brown (2.5Y 6/4) with many, very small light olive (2.5Y 5/6) mottled sandy clay loam. Structureless, massive to weak medium subangular blocky; friable, consistency; smooth boundary.
B2	38-55+	Light olive brown (2.5Y 5/6) with many very small olive yellow (5Y 6/8) mottled sandy clay; moderate, medium subangular blocky structure; firm to very firm consistency.

Prehistoric and historic materials are mixed in the Ap1 and Ap2 horizons. In situ prehistoric and historic materials begin in the A3 horizon which is generally a 5 cm (2 in) thick zone between the Ap2 and B1 horizons, ca. 21 to 26 cm (8 to 10 in) below surface. The top of the A3 horizon is often recognizable by plow scars. Prehistoric features were found in the A3 horizon. Although disturbed by cultivation, compacted shell pits, e.g. Feature 31, retain their contextual integrity and depositional data was obtained. Other features, where the matrix was not as compacted and resistant, suffered greater or total alteration.

## Cultural Stratigraphy

Surface Material: The surface collection artifact inventory recorded a high frequency of prehistoric and historic cultural materials and ethnofaunal remains. The most frequent prehistoric artifact type was ceramic vessel sherds. Shell-tempered, grit-tempered, sand-tempered, and clay-tempered wares were recovered. The highest frequency was shell-tempered followed by grit-tempered. Surface treatments consisted of fabric-impressed, simple-stamped, cord-impressed, and plain exterior. A substantial number of sherds could not be classified. Incised rim decoration patterns were recorded. Several ceramic smoking pipe bowl fragments were found.

Prehistoric lithic artifact types consisted of projectile points, perforators, scrapers, and hammerstones. Lithic reduction debris consisted of cores, chips, and flakes occurring with non-diagnostic, rejected bifaces and unifaces. Projectile point forms included the stemless triangular and stemmed biface. Fire-cracked rock fragments were recovered. Most of the material derives from the Woodland period, principally the latter part. The only non-Woodland diagnostic artifacts include two stemmed bifaces which are indicative of an Archaic period occupation of the site.

Ethnofaunal remains consisted of bone fragments, both snapped and butchered by sawing, along with a high frequency of oyster shells and occasional clam shell fragments. The assignment of these remains to specific cultural components was not possible based on surface data. The recovery of redeposited prehistoric sherds in association with a dense concentration of oyster shells at Beasley Point shore line indicated that oysters were included in the prehistoric diet.

Historic artifact types primarily represented architectural and domestic functions. Kitchen wares included bottle glass, ceramics, and storage vessel sherds. Building materials included brick fragments, mortar, nails, and metal hardware. A decorative tile was recovered. Weaponry items, flints and cartridges, along with personal items and kaolin smoking pipe fragments were recovered. The temporal range represented by the artifact assemblage covers the eighteenth through the twentieth centuries.

Subsurface Material: Subsurface investigations consisted of 14 shovel tests, 15 larger excavation units and six machine-stripped transects. The shovel tests produced both prehistoric and historic artifacts, as did the excavation units and transects. A mix of prehistoric and historic cultural materials was found within the plow zone.

Shovel Tests 7, 8, and 9 were placed in the wooded area south and west of Beasley Point (Plate II-1). The purpose of these units was to determine the level of soil disturbance from plowing and to establish the site's northeastern boundaries. The presence of oyster shells and prehistoric artifacts redeposited on the shore line indicated the site once extended beyond the present shore line. Examination of the exposed face of the bluff on the east revealed sherds at the interface of the topsoil and subsoil.

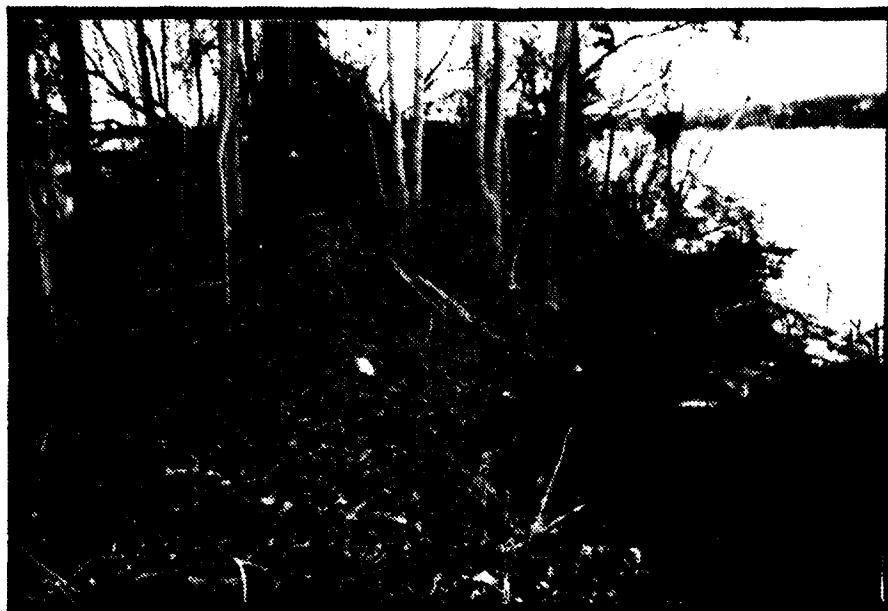


PLATE II-1: Wooded Area on Beasley Point



PLATE II-2: Excavation  
Unit 14 - Feature II

Shovel Tests 7 and 8 soil profiles indicated shallow disturbance by plowing. Shovel Test 8 revealed disturbance at the base of the topsoil and the interface with the subsoil which was probably associated with prehistoric activity and plowing. Shovel Test 9 recorded disturbance to a depth of 1.4 ft (16 cm). The nature of the disturbance was not established. It was probably related to the matrix of a prehistoric feature or possibly a refilled tree-fall cavity.

Excavation Unit 6 yielded a dense bed of oyster shell at 0.5 to 0.65 ft (16 to 20 cm) below the surface; due to lack of time, the unit was not excavated to sterile soil but was terminated at a depth of 1.2 ft (36 cm). Transect S32/E120 crossed the oyster deposit. The deposit has a profile which extended from the topsoil into the interface of the subsoil. Small oyster shell pits were identified surfacing in the topsoil and extending into the subsoil, e.g. Features 44 and 45.

#### 31BF115 Feature Summary

A total of 47 subsurface cultural features were identified and given designations. Features include structural remains as well as non-structural earth disturbances. Several of these were subjected to excavation.

Feature 1: (Excavation Unit 2 N40/W20) measured 3.7 ft (1.13 m) in diameter and 2.5 ft (76 cm) in depth. It was partially excavated for the purpose of positive identification as a cultural feature. The matrix contained prehistoric ceramics, burnt bone, and charred wood and was classified as prehistoric.

Feature 2: (Excavation Unit 3 N60/W20) measured an estimated 3.0 ft (91 cm) length at its maximum length. The partially revealed form is an irregular oval with an irregular bottom. This feature may be a tree-fall cavity.

Feature 3: (Excavation Unit 4 N50/E20) measured 2.5+ ft (76+ cm) in diameter and 1.4 ft (43 cm) in depth; it was partially excavated for the purpose of positive identification as a cultural feature. It contained iron nails, glass, and prehistoric ceramics and was considered to be either historic with prehistoric artifacts introduced by backfilling or a disturbed prehistoric feature.

Feature 4: (Excavation Unit 4 N40/E20) was partially exposed in the northeastern corner of the unit. Only a small section was revealed and it was not excavated. Based on its form, the feature appears to be an aboriginal pit. No cultural classification was possible.

Feature 5: (Excavation Unit 7 N20/W20) was a probable dug pit measuring 1.7+ ft (52 cm) in diameter. It was not excavated; however, fragments of brick, historic ceramics, glass, prehistoric pottery and charred wood were found in the vicinity.

Features 6-8, 12-23 N20/W20: (15 post molds) were revealed at a fairly uniform depth, 0.8 to 1.1 ft (25 to 33 cm), in Excavation Units 8, 11, and 12 which adjoined (Feature 11-1). These postmolds tended to be circular and measured from 0.25 to 0.45 ft (8 to 14 cm) in diameter,

although Feature 13 was larger, ca. 0.5 ft (18 cm) in diameter; most were close to the lower end of this range. Features 15-18, 20 appeared to be arranged in a semi-circular pattern, but there was insufficient data to suggest a possible house pattern.

Feature 9 (Excavation Units 8 and 11 N20/W20): measured 0.9 ft (28 cm) in diameter and 1.0 ft (30 cm) in depth. It was partially excavated for the purpose of positive identification as a cultural feature. It contained an abundance of oyster shell and prehistoric pottery and some lithics. The pit was classified as prehistoric; however, some historic brick, iron, and pottery were in the upper level indicating plow disturbance.

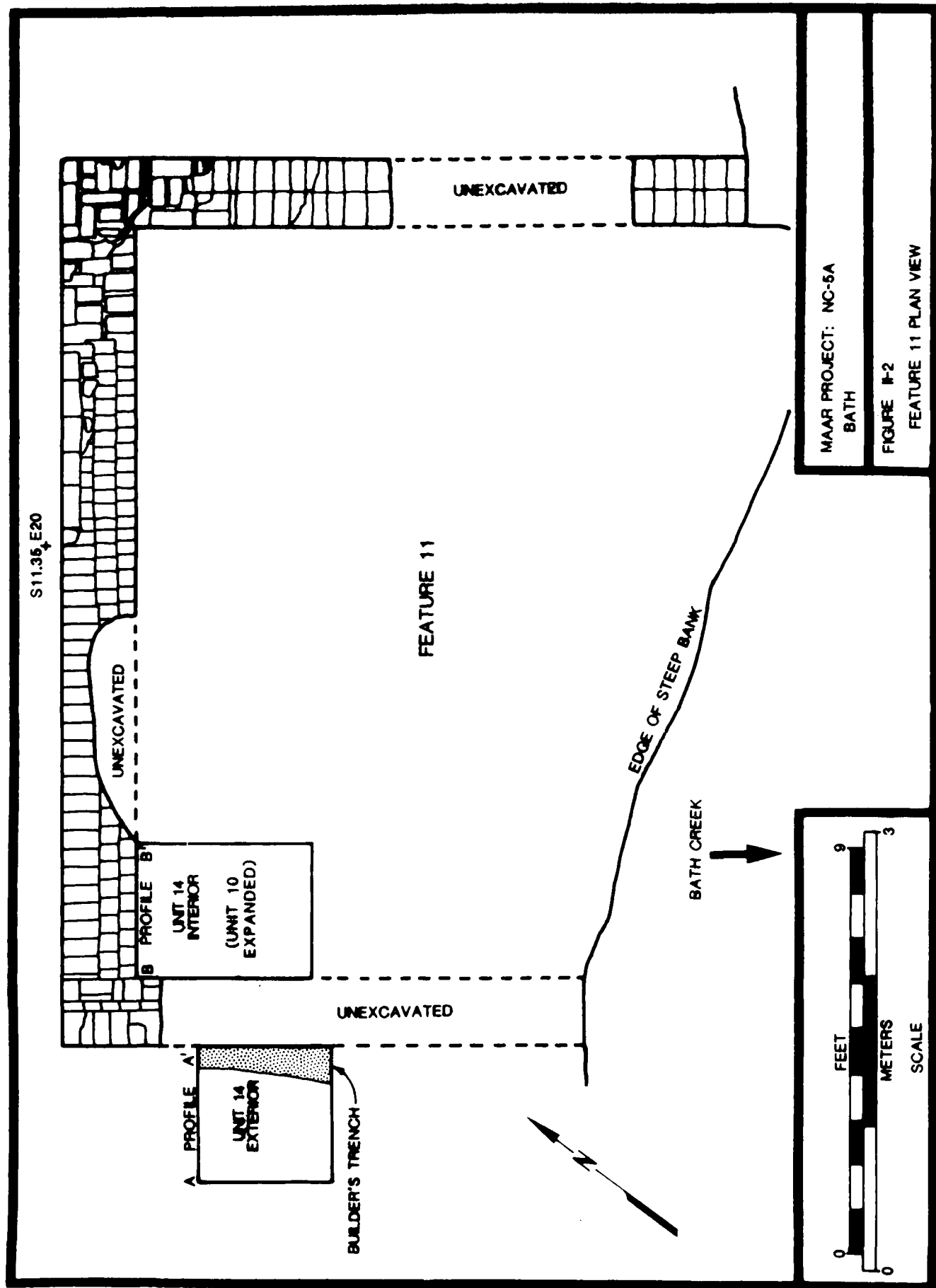
Feature 10: was found in Excavation Unit 9 (N20/E20), located just a few feet from the ruins of the brick foundation (Feature 11). It is an irregular, quite thick support post measuring ca. 0.8 ft (25 cm) in diameter. Portions of the wood post were still intact. The hole dug to submerge this post is still visible as a mold ca. 1.5 ft (45 cm) in diameter consisting of a mixed dark surface sandy loam and a deeper, yellowish sandy clay. Iron artifacts (unexcavated) adhere to the wood and are found in the mold. The post is, obviously, historic in origin.

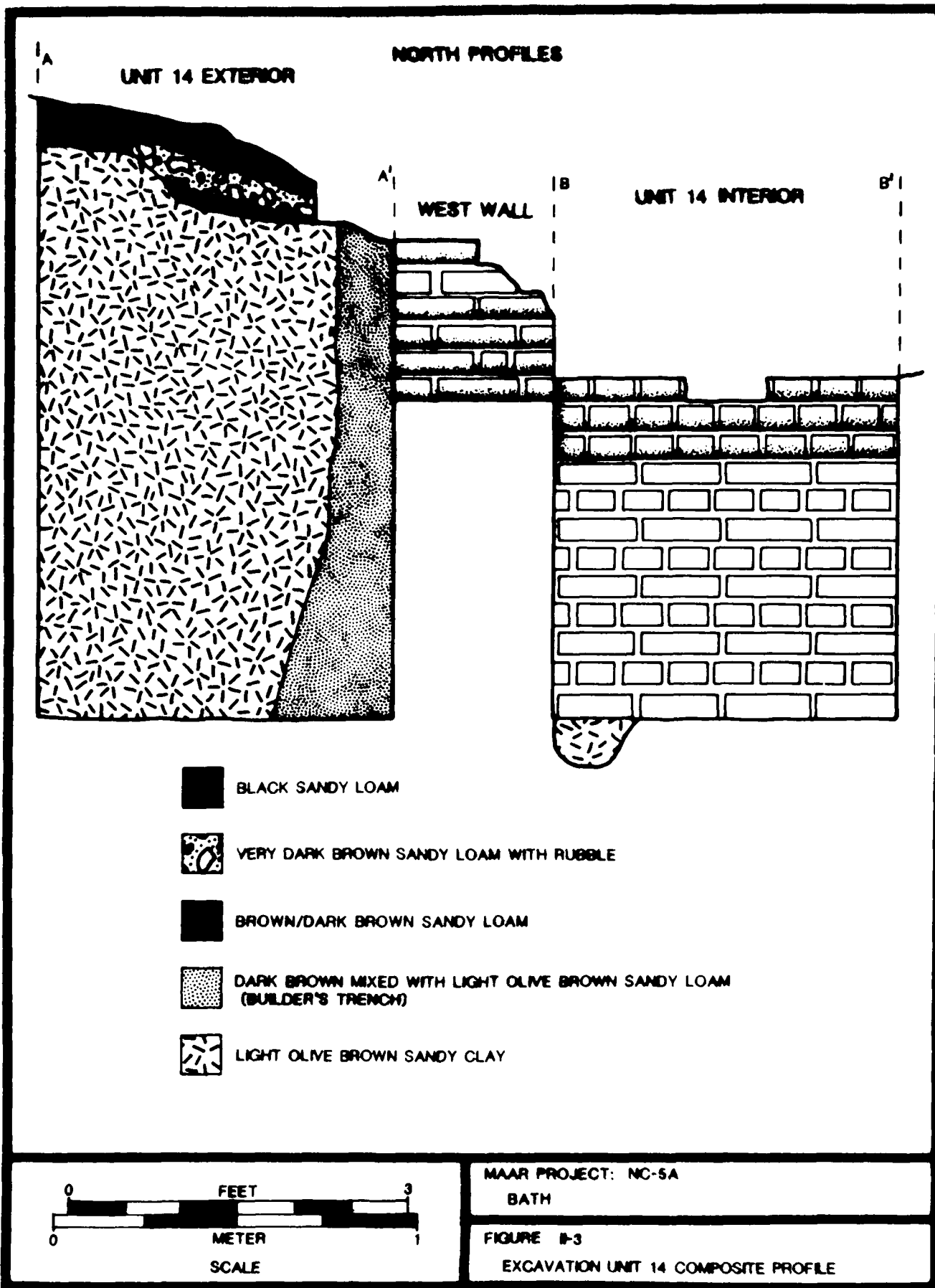
Feature 11: (N20/E20) is the structural remains of a building at the edge of the Bath Creek bank. The dimensions of the intact portion of the foundation measured 20 ft x 15 ft (7.88m x 5.90 m) on the exterior and 10 ft x 16 ft (4m x 6.3 m) on the interior, although the eastern side has been destroyed by beach erosion. The wall is two bricks thick (1.3 ft, 51cm), composed of red clay handmade bricks measuring 0.65 ft in length (26cm), by 0.3 ft (12cm) in width, by 0.2 ft (8 cm) in height. They are laid with an English bond, mortared with a lime mortar, and extending at least seventeen courses deep in the east wall, to a depth of 5.5 ft (2.17m) below the highest course of brick.

At the initiation of the Phase I investigation, thick vegetation covered the structure. Upon completion of clearing, three substantial walls were revealed, (Figure II-2). The top portion of the walls was exposed by excavation to reveal the dimensions of the building, recover a representative sample of artifacts, record the bonding characteristics, and identify its function, if possible. Time was not available to excavate the overburden to reveal the floor of the structure.

During the Phase II investigations Excavation Unit 14 (N20/E20) was placed at the location of a previous test unit Excavation Unit 10 (Figure II-3: Plate II-2). The unit bisected the southern wall at its northern corner. The positioning was selected to examine the interior fill above the building floor and the exterior builder's trench. The interior fill was composed of prehistoric and historic artifacts, as was the builder's trench. The floor was compressed earth. Artifacts dated from the Woodland period to the twentieth century.







Feature 24: (Figure II-1 N80/E60) was the redeposited oyster and prehistoric artifact concentration located on the northern and eastern shore lines around Beasley Point. It appeared that the deposit resulted from erosion activities cutting into the stream bank. The deposit on the northern shore line was collected in 16 ft (5 m) surface units. The cultural materials were from the Woodland period, primarily ceramics from the latter part of the period.

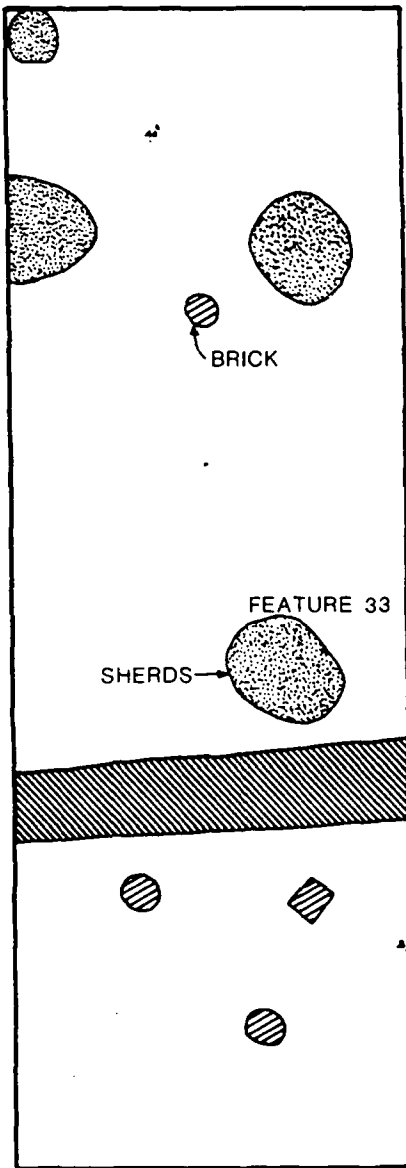
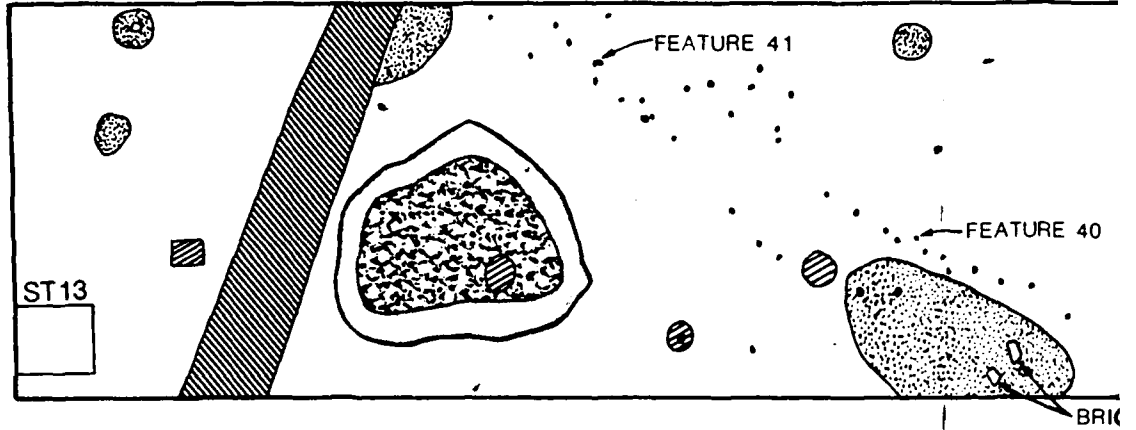
Feature 25: was a structural feature located in Transect N14/E20 (Figure II-4) at an average depth of 0.5 ft (15 cm) below the surface. The structure was rectangular in form with the northern wall collapsed into the interior cavity. It measured 3.5 ft x 8 ft (1.06 m x 2.44 m), on the exterior, and 1.5 ft x 7 ft (59 cm x 2.75 m). It was one brick thick, 0.8 ft (24 cm) mortared with a lime mortar, and one to two courses above the subsoil level (Figure II-5). In an effort to identify the function of the structure, a 1.3 ft by 2.4 ft (40 cm x 73 cm) test unit was placed in the center of the feature revealing the collapsed northern wall at a depth of 1.5 to 2.0 ft (45 cm x 61 cm) (Figure II-6). Below the collapsed wall was a shallow cavity with an earthen base of subsoil (Plate II-3) where small badly decomposed fragments of wood were identified in the soil. The interior face of the south wall was covered with plaster. Excavation was terminated at this point because the combined evidence of the structural form, plaster interior lining, decomposing wood, and presence of an unidentifiable cavity suggested that the feature was an historic burial vault.

Subsequent excavation of this feature by members of The Division of Archives and History, Archaeology Branch, verified this feature as the burial vault of an adult male. Also found in association with the burial were a number of coffin nails. The analysis of the skeletal remains is presented in the data analysis section of this report.

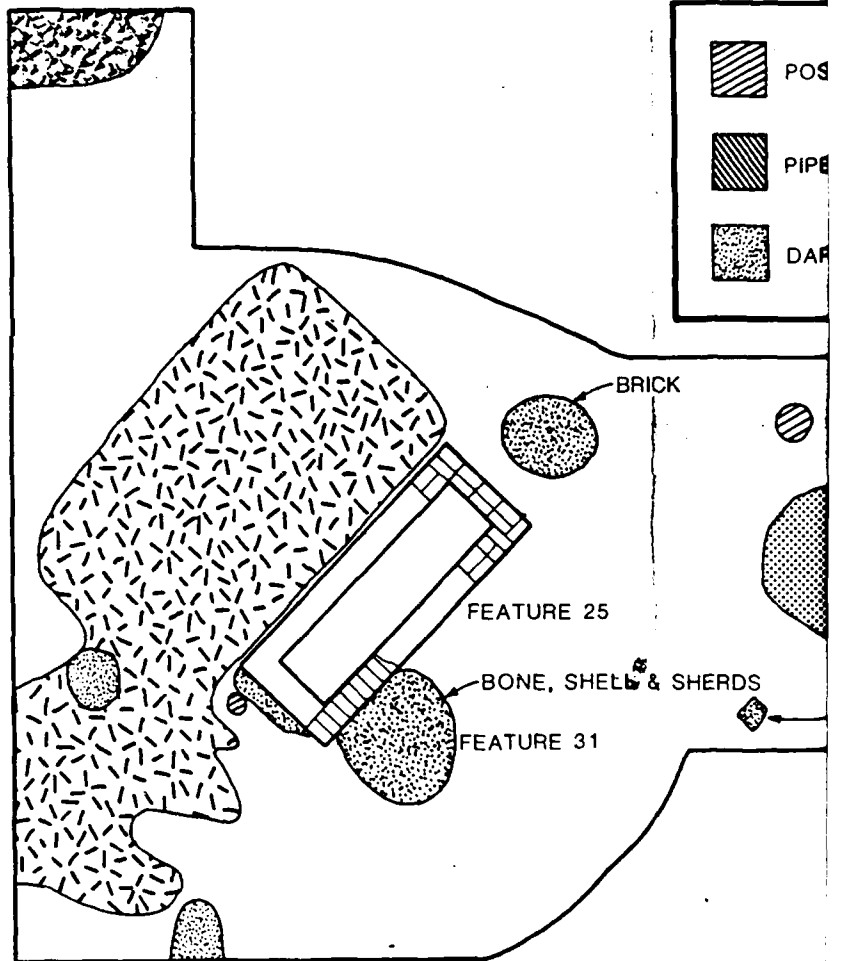
Feature 26: was a small, shallow shell feature (Figure II-7) revealed in Excavation Unit 16 (N80/E60) which was located in the northern face of the high water bank adjoining the Beasley Point wooded area (Figure II-1). The unit was excavated to examine the boundaries of the site and the origin of redeposited cultural materials on the shore line. An excavated section of Feature 26 contained 11 potsherds and oyster shell.

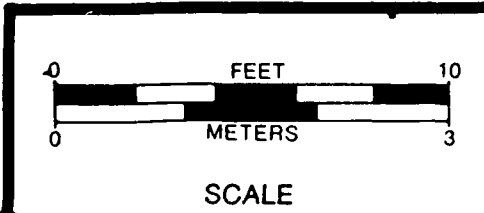
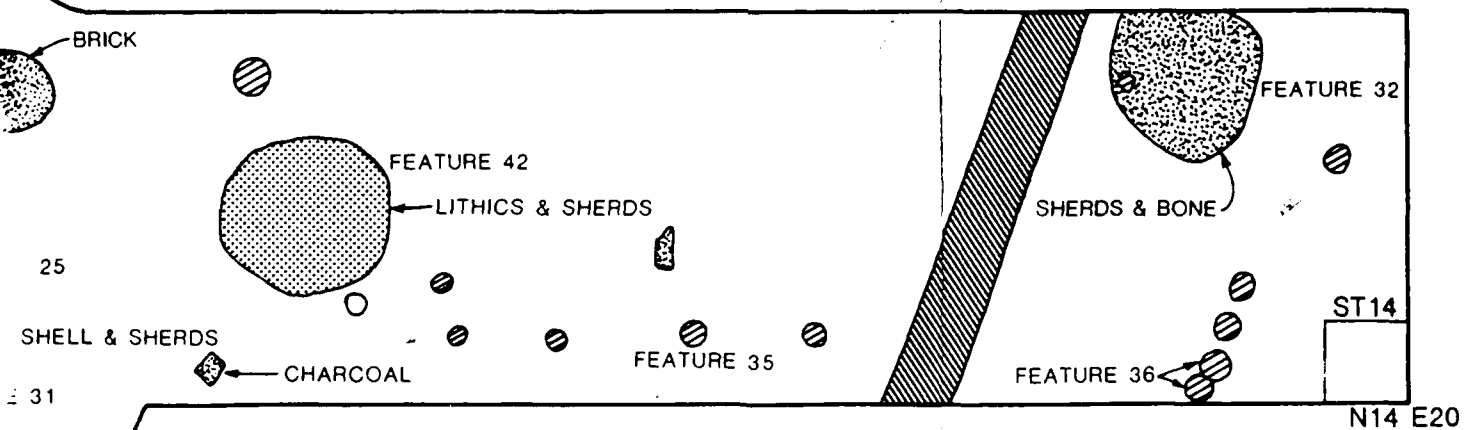
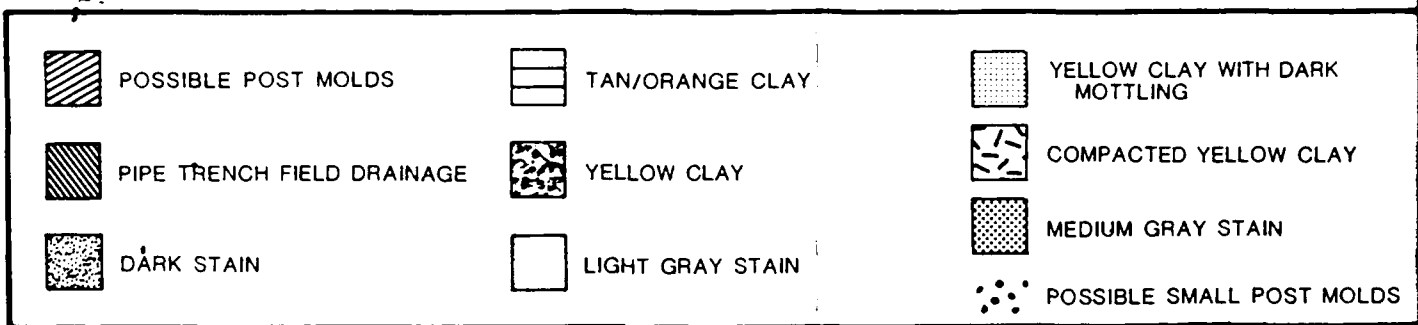
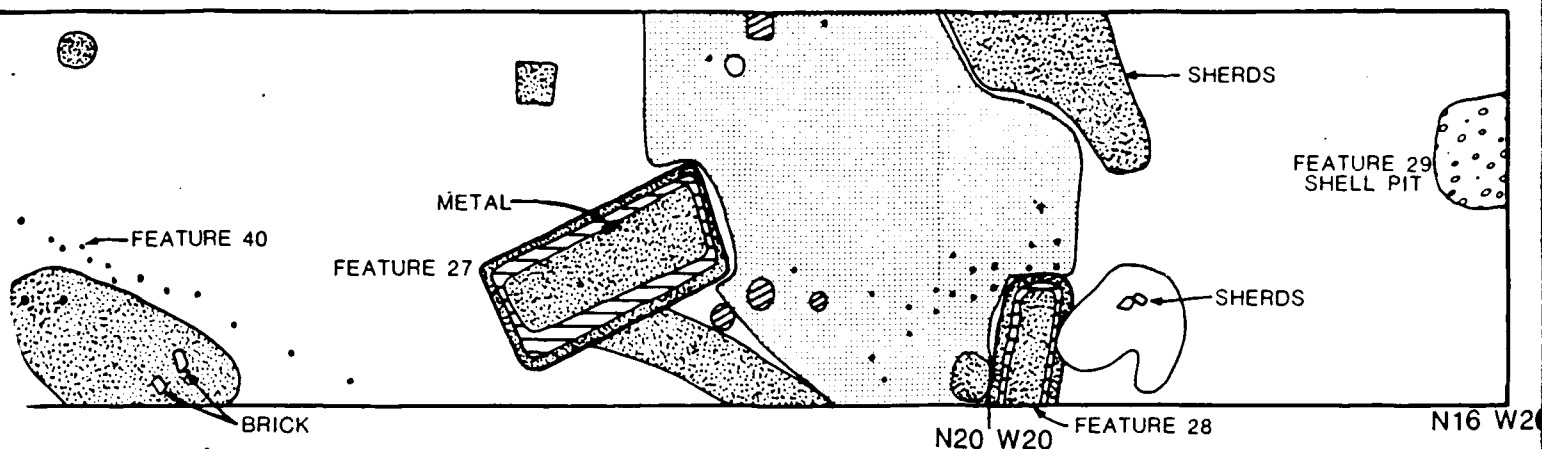
Feature 27: was a rectangular-shaped discolored soil pattern in the top of the subsoil. The feature was revealed during the stripping of Transect N16/W20 (Figure II-4: Plate II-4). It measured 6.3 ft x 3.0 ft ( 1.9 X 0.9 m). After the surface was cleaned no additional excavation was conducted. The form indicates that the feature is probably a historic burial. Appendix D reports on the excavation of Feature 27.

Feature 28: (Figure II-4: Plate II-5), like Feature 27, had a rectangular form, but was smaller in size. This feature was bisected by transect N16/W20. The width measured 1.5 ft (45 cm). Since Feature 28 was interpreted to be a historic burial only the surface was exposed. Subsequent excavation by a branch of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History revealed this feature to be a shallow disturbance of unknown origin.



N40 E4



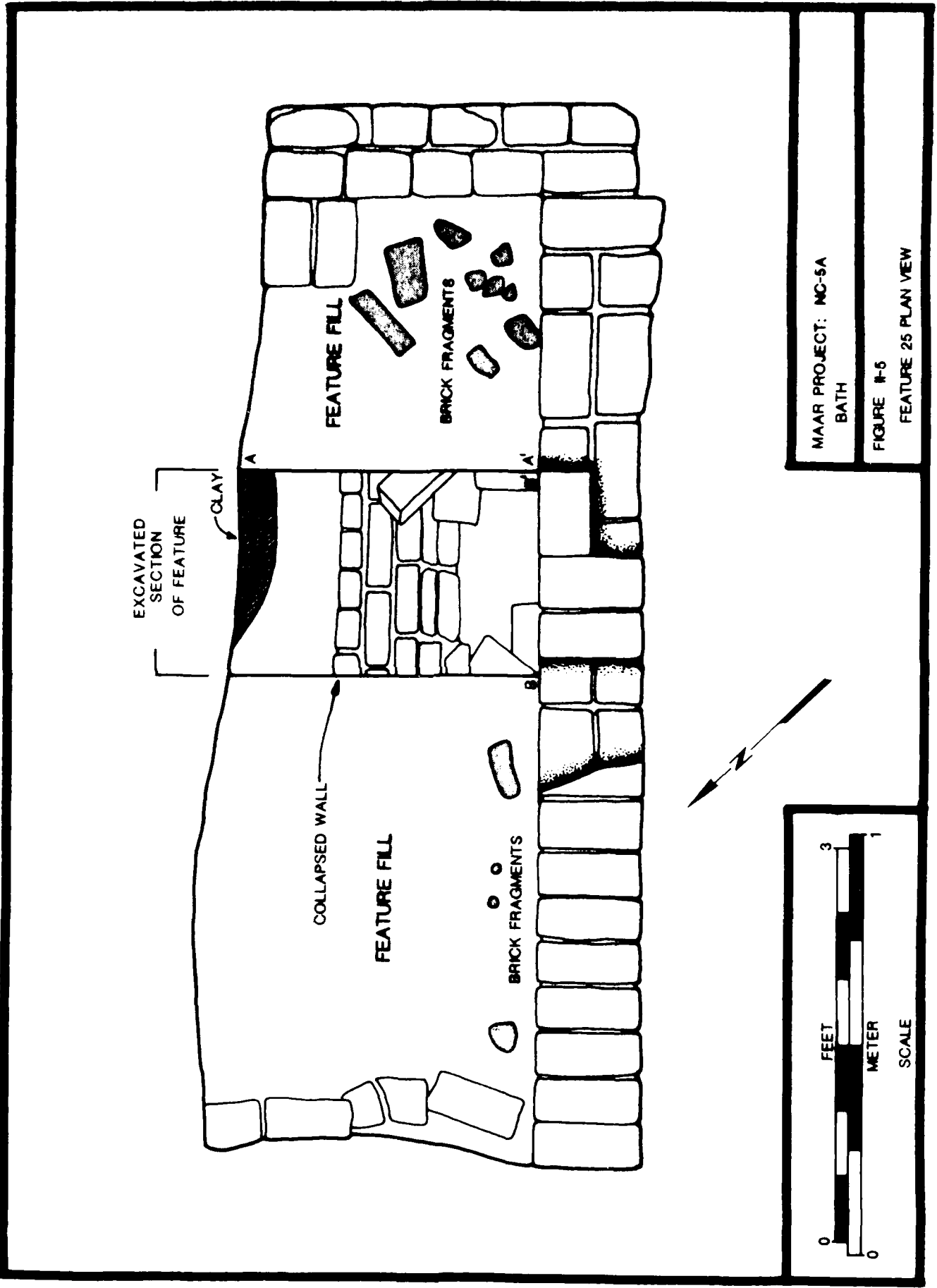


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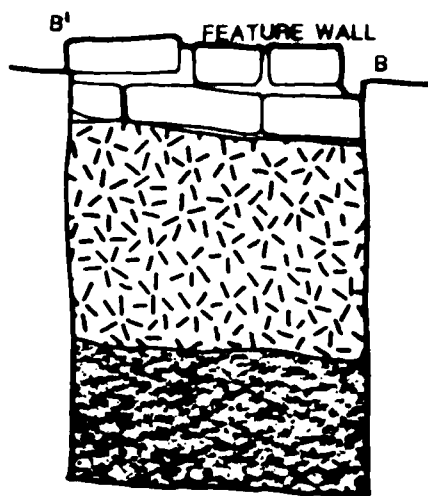
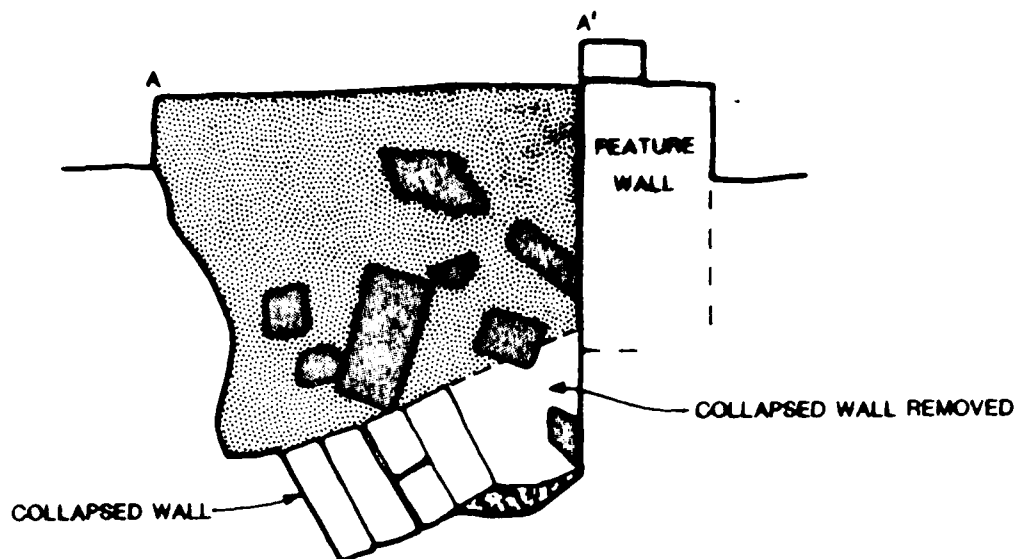
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FIGURE II-4

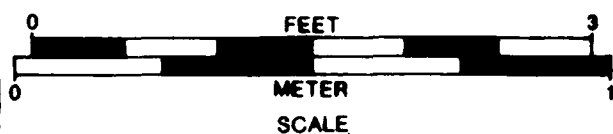
STRIPPED AREAS N16 W20, N40 E4 & N16 E20 PLAN VIEWS



# EAST PROFILE



# SOUTH PROFILE



MAAR PROJECT: NC-5A  
BATH

FIGURE 1-6  
FEATURE 25 PROFILES

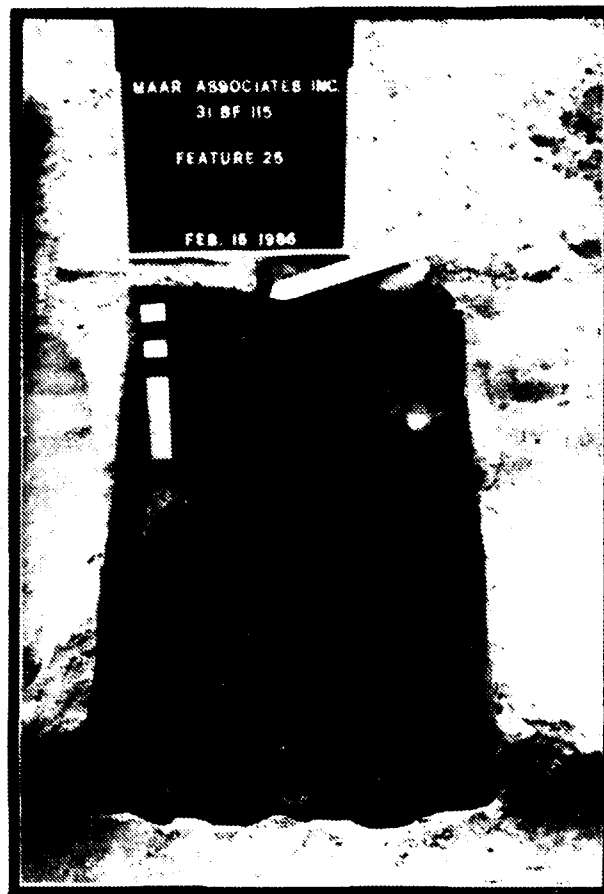


PLATE II-3: Section in Feature 25

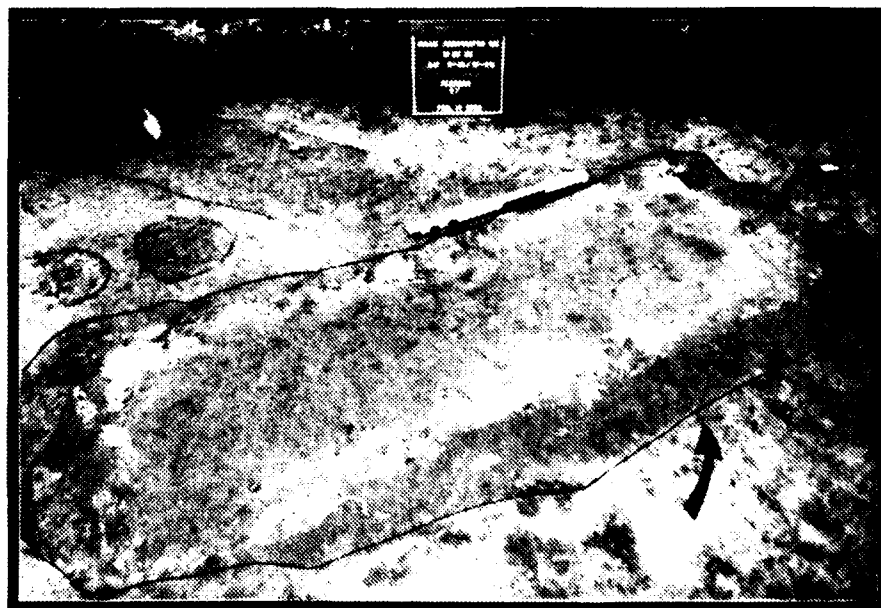
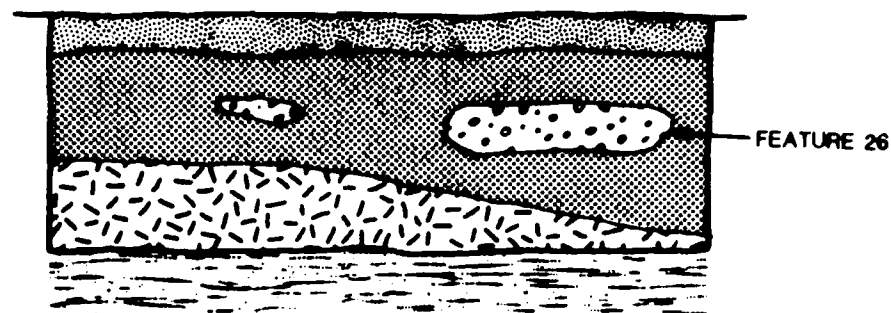


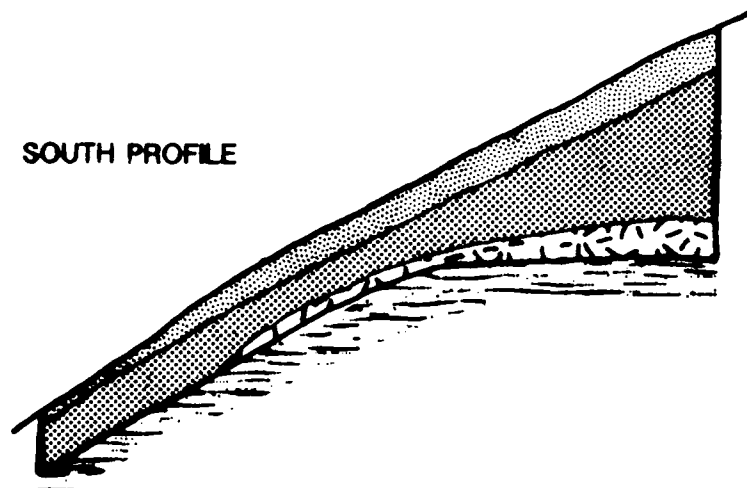
PLATE II -4: Feature 27 - Burial



# WEST PROFILE



# SOUTH PROFILE



DARK BROWN LOAM



DARK BROWN SILTY SAND



SHELL DEPOSITS



MEDIUM BROWN SILTY SAND



ORANGE CLAY



MAAR PROJECT: NC-5A  
BATH

FIGURE 11-7  
EXCAVATION UNIT 16 FEATURE 26 PROFILES



PLATE II-5: Feature 28 - Burial



PLATE II -6: Feature 31  
Quarter Sectioned

Feature 29: (Figure II-4) was revealed during the stripping of transect N16/W20. The upper section of the feature matrix is filled with oyster shells and prehistoric sherds. The form and matrix of the pit is similar to Feature 31, a prehistoric refuse pit. Since Feature 31 was selected for excavation as representative of prehistoric features, this feature was not excavated.

Feature 30: (Figure II-1) is a redeposited concentration of oyster shells mixed with prehistoric and historic artifacts located at N0/W20. The deposit is similar in nature to Feature 24 with the exception that historic artifacts are present in a substantial volume. The feature boundaries were not defined due to the presence of standing water. Mr. Warren Harris (personal communication 1986) had collected artifacts from the shore line around Feature 30. Some were found under the water using a rake. Within his collection are eighteenth century Westerwald and Delft wares as well as nineteenth century ceramic types.

Feature 31: (Figure II-8) is a prehistoric pit with ceramics, flint knapping debris, and faunal remains (mammal, turtle, and fish remains along with oyster shells). The feature was identified by stripping transect N14/E20, and was adjacent to Feature 25 (Figure II-4). A fragment of coral was recovered. The upper section of the feature is in the topsoil at 0.5 ft (15 cm) below surface. This section of the matrix is composed of densely compacted shell, along with artifacts (Plate II-6). The ceramics recovered were all shell-tempered.

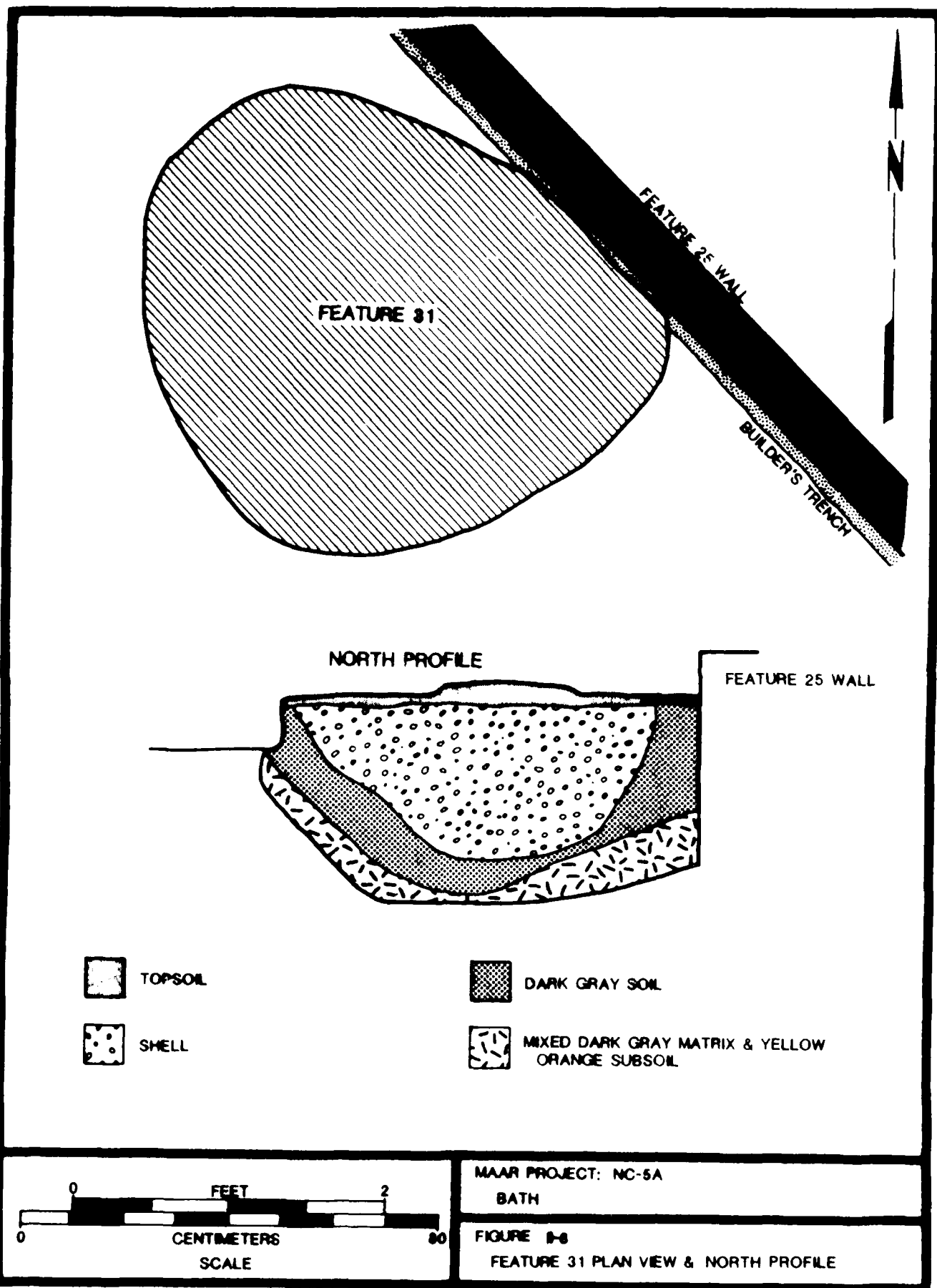
Feature 32: (Figure II-4) is a pit in transect N14/E20 with its surface approximately 0.5 ft (15 cm) below ground surface. The matrix is darkly stained and contains ceramics and faunal remains. Excavation of a one-quarter section revealed a form that suggests the pit was the result of a tree-fall. The artifacts were deposited as the cavity was refilled, probably by natural sources.

Feature 33: (Figure II-4) is a darkly discolored, circular stain within transect N40/E4. Several sherds were recovered from its surface during clean-up. Based on its form and the presence of ceramics, the feature may be a prehistoric pit.

Feature 34: (Figure II-9) is the structural remains of a building within Transect N50/E63. It is composed of a well-defined area of brick rubble located approximately 0.9 ft (27 cm) below the surface. The brick rubble extended in an east/west direction for a total of 40 ft (12 m). The north/south boundaries of the feature extended beyond the limits of the trench, but a minimum dimension of 26 ft (8 m) was identified along this axis. No intact wall was identified.

Shovel Test 11 was excavated in a pipe trench that bisects the southern wall. The test revealed that the rubble deposit is 1.8 ft (55 cm) thick at that location. Feature 34 is tentatively interpreted as a filled cellar hole associated with a large structure.

Features 35 and 36: (Figure II-4) are post holes located in transect N14/E20. They were sectioned to reveal their profiles. Feature 35 was 0.65 ft (20 cm) in diameter and extended 0.55 ft (16 cm)





POSSIBLE POST MOLD



PIPE TRENCH FIELD DRAINAGE



FEATURE 34



DARK STAIN

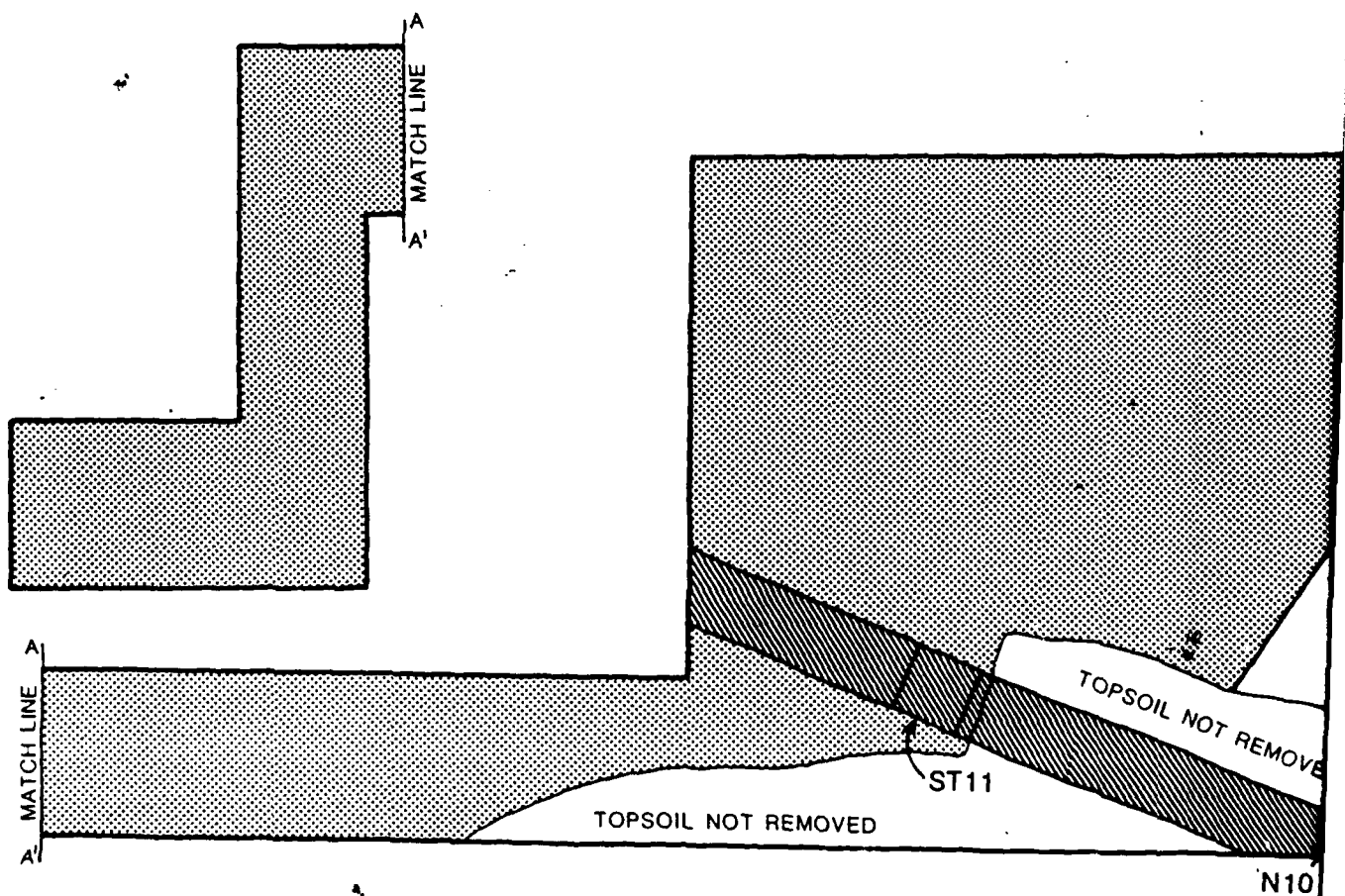


FEATURE

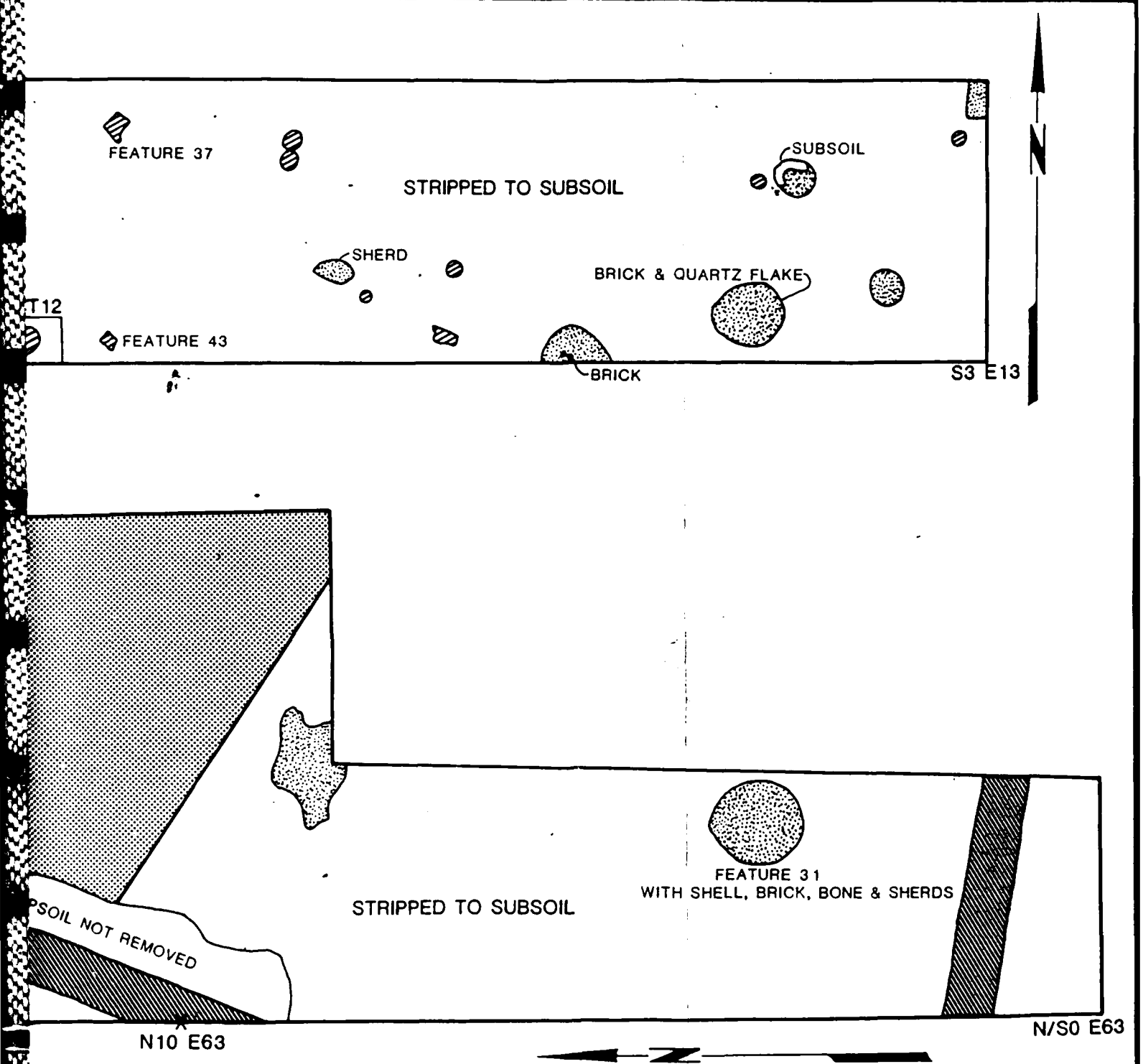
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FEATUR



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MAAR PROJECT: NC-5A

BATH

FIGURE II-9

STRIPPED AREAS S3 E13 & N/S0 E63 PLAN VIEWS

2

into the subsoil where it terminated in a rounded end. The matrix contained coal, burnt wood, brick fragments and prehistoric sherds. The feature derives from historic use. Feature 36 was a double post hole, with each having diameters of 0.5 ft (15 cm). The base of the western mold was irregular and the second was rounded. No cultural materials were recovered.

Feature 37: (Figure II-9) is a squared post hole lying within transect S3/E13. Its dimensions average 0.65 ft (20 cm) per side. No cultural materials were found.

Features 38, 40, and 41: (Figure II-4) are a line of post holes found in transect N16/W20. Features 38 and 40 have diameters of 0.2 and 0.25 ft (6 and 7 cm), respectively. The other feature appears to be a double post hole with an overall width of 0.45 ft (13 cm). The latter post holes have bases which are pointed and the first is rounded. One small fragment of bone was recovered from the matrix of Feature 40. Feature 41 has oyster shell fragments and charcoal in the matrix.

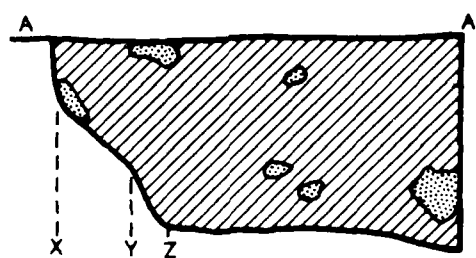
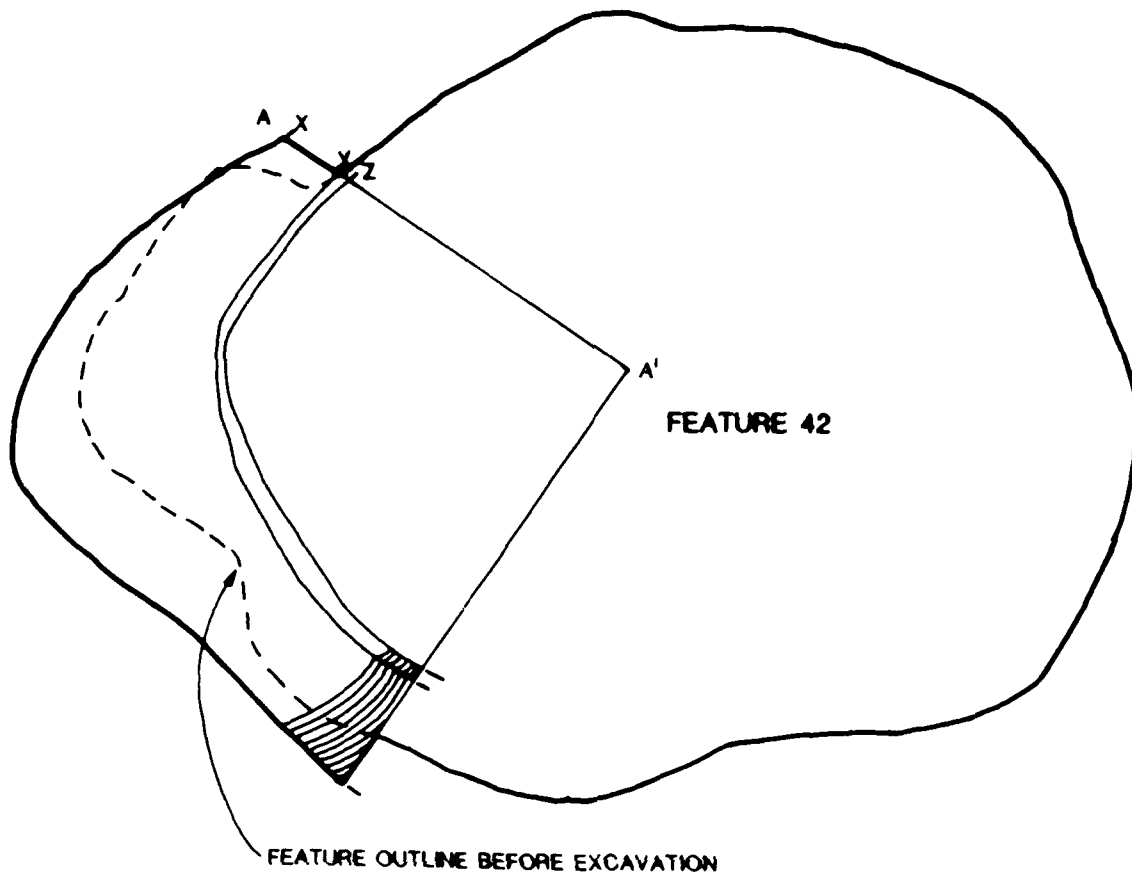
Feature 39: (Figure II-9) is an oyster shell pit uncovered in transect N0/E63. It appears to be similar to Features 29 and 31. Its surface extends into the lower section of the topsoil. No excavation upon clearing was conducted because Feature 31 was chosen to be excavated as an example of the type.

Feature 42: (Figure II-4 and II-10) is a lightly stained pit that was revealed with the removal of the topsoil in transect N14/E20. It was chosen for examination because it appeared to be a type differing from the shell pits and darkly discolored pits. It had an irregular circular surface with a diameter of approximately 4.0 ft (1.2 m). A quarter-section of the feature revealed a flat bottomed pit which had a depth of 1.0 ft (30 cm) (Plate II-7). Prehistoric sherds with bone fragments were recovered from all three levels of the section. The feature was classified as prehistoric.

Feature 43: (Figure II-9) is a square post hole in transect S3/E13. Sectioning revealed a rounded base extending 0.4 ft (12 cm) into the subsoil. The matrix contained brick and charcoal fragments with one prehistoric sherd. The feature probably dates from the historic period.

Features 44 and 45: (Figure II-11) were identified by the opening of Unit 15 in transect S34/E120. The unit was excavated in the oyster shell concentration identified by the surface collection (Figure II-1) and discussed in Excavation Unit 6. Feature 44 was a small oyster shell-filled pit which extended out of the unit to the southeast (Plate II-8). Its form was irregular, roughly circular with a diameter of approximately 1.6 ft (50 cm). Its base was relatively flat with a maximum depth of 0.65 ft (20 cm). The matrix contained prehistoric sherds. Unit excavation exposed only a small section of Feature 45 and no examination was made of the matrix.

Feature 46: (Figure II-1) is the Ballast Landing Site identified by earlier investigations in the creek east of the project area. During the Phase I research conditions permitted a careful examination of the



MOTTLED MEDIUM & LIGHT BROWN  
SANDY SILT



YELLOW CLAY CHUNKS



MAAR PROJECT: NC-5A  
BATH

FIGURE 11-10  
FEATURE 42 PLAN VIEW & PROFILE



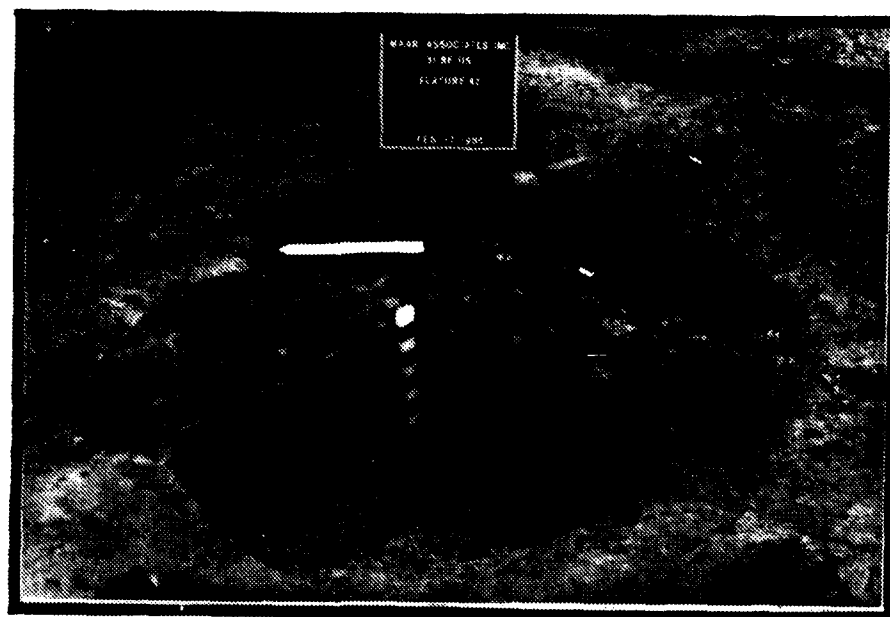


PLATE II -7: Feature 42  
Quarter Sectioned

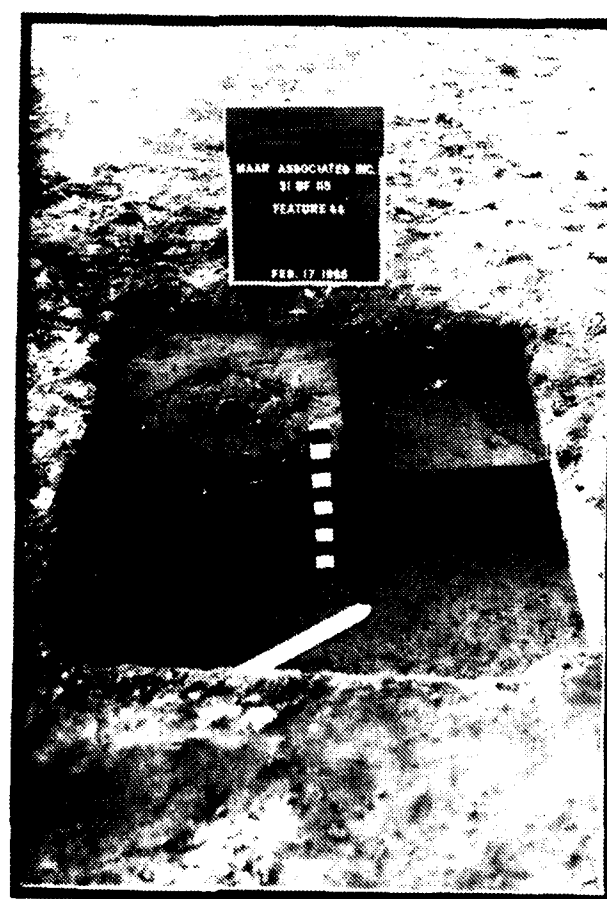
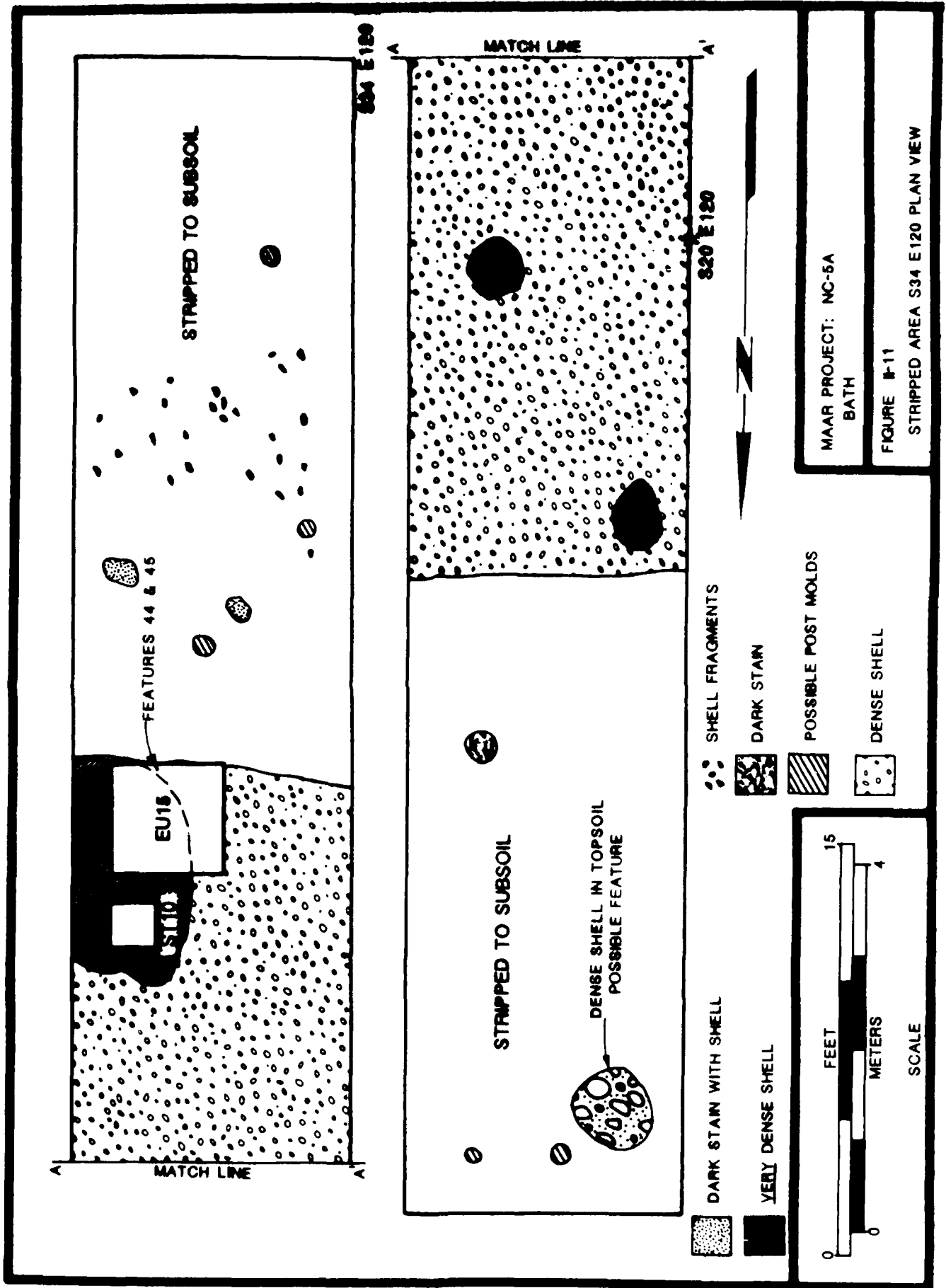


PLATE II -8: Feature 44  
Sectioned



site. An unusually low tide exposed almost all of the ballast dump, which was, in fact, an amorphous scatter (with several more or less dense concentrations) of shale, thin handmade bricks, limestone conglomerates, and other materials that extended from the shore to ca. 140 ft (43 m). This site, like other ballast sites in the region, has been heavily depleted by people collecting rocks to line their wells, gardens, etc. Moreover, a test unit 1.0 X 1.0 ft (30 X 30 cm) revealed a dense layer of clam shells mixed with recent beer and soda can rings; thus, the present surface of the river bottom has rapidly aggraded within the last 10 to 15 years at this location.

Feature 47: (Figure II-1) is the Iron Rail Site. The same low tide permitted a close inspection but no iron rails were seen. Informant John Tankard (personal communication 1986) denied ever having seen any rails at this location. Moreover, one of the reported iron pipes turned out to be a log about the same diameter and oriented as an iron pipe extending from the wetland on shore. No artifacts were seen on the exposed river bottom. Both John Tankard and Warren Harris (personnel communication 1986), long-time residents of this particular Texasgulf property, informed the MAAR investigators that the pier was modern and functioned as a boat dock and fishing pier, until recently. The iron pipe was one of several drains from tiles placed below the surface in the 1960's.

31BF117

In addition to the surface collection, four shovel tests and three units were hand excavated and two transects were mechanically stripped of topsoil at this site. The data base recovered from the field investigations consisted primarily of prehistoric cultural materials with several historic artifacts as well. No artifacts were found in an undisturbed context; the data base was recovered from a soil context disturbed by plowing. Cultural features were not found.

#### Data Analysis

In the following analyses prehistoric ceramic typological classifications were primarily based on the published works of David Phelps (1982a, 1982b, and 1983). Supplementary information was obtained during visits to East Carolina University (Phelps, personal communication 1986) and from Dr. Phelps when he visited 31BF115 during the project. Projectile typological classifications are based on publications by Joffre Coe (1964) and Phelps (1983). Faunal and floral identifications were provided by Ronald A. Thomas, Principal Investigator. Functional taxonomic classifications were based on the work of Howard D. Winters (1969).

Historic typological classifications were taken from the works of Ivor Noel Hume (1978) and Stanley South (1977). Functional taxonomic classifications are those of South (1977).

31BF115  
Prehistoric Data Base

During the Phases I and II field investigations three surface collections were completed. Two general collections were completed during Phase I and in Phase II a systematic collection was done. The three completed collections have been combined to provide a general artifact inventory for the site (Table II-2).

Early and Middle Woodland occupations appear limited, based on the lack of diagnostic artifacts. The possibility of Archaic period occupation at the site is marginal. Although two stemmed bifaces were recovered which might be associated with the Archaic period, more definitive information about earlier occupation was not present.

Diagnostic Artifacts indicate that prehistoric activity at 31BF115 centers in the Late Woodland period. Most of the temporally diagnostic artifacts date from this period. The most abundant ceramic type is the Colington phase ceramic ware which is associated with the Late Woodland period. Fifty-five percent of the ceramics recovered at the site were from this phase. Associated with Colington ware are Cashie phase ceramics, which according to Phelps (1983:44), were introduced into Colington settlements by trade. Forty-one percent of the ceramics were Cashie grit-tempered or sand-tempered sherds. Combined, these two Late Woodland period wares constitute 93 percent of the ceramics inventory.

The surface treatment methods represented on the Late Woodland sherds conform to the patterns described (Phelps 1983:36, 43-44) (Table II-3). The percentages of treatment techniques indicates that fabric-impressing of vessel surfaces was the most common surface treatment employed. This dominance conforms with the previous studies (Phelps 1983:36). However, plain exterior treatment ranks as the second most popular method, differing from the pattern recognized by Phelps. It supercedes simple stamped as a major style.

A Middle Woodland period component is indicated by the presence of Mount Pleasant phase and Hanover phase wares. Three percent of the ceramic inventory is composed of this grit-tempered ceramic ware. Two one-hundredths of a percent of the inventory consists of Hanover phase clay-tempered ceramics. According to Phelps (1983:35) this ware occurs in Mount Pleasant settlements located in the Inner Coastal Plain.

Early Woodland activities in the site's prehistory are suggested by the recovery of Deep Creek ware, a sand-tempered ceramic (Phelps 1983:31). Three percent of the ceramic inventory is comprised of the ware. A Large Roanoke projectile point was recovered from the plow zone. This type is affiliated with the Deep Creek phase (Phelps 1983:31,32).

Lithic temporal diagnostics consist of two Roanoke projectile points, one of which is identified as the small variety of the type (Coe 1964:110-111). The Small Roanoke projectile point is associated with both the Middle and Late Woodland cultures (Phelps 1983:33, 39) and could represent either component in the site's prehistory.

TABLE II-2

31BF115 Prehistoric Artifact Classifications  
Phases I and II Surface Collections

CERAMICS SHERDS	ITEM COUNT	TOTALS
Colington phase:		
Fabric-impressed	170	
Simple-stamped	26	
Plain exterior	185	
Incised decoration	3	
Unidentified treatment	146	
Total		530 (55%)
Cashie phase (grit tempered):		
Fabric-impressed	112	
Simple-stamped	42	
Plain exterior	85	
Incised decoration	1	
Unidentified treatment	110	
Total		350 (36%)
Cashie phase (sand tempered):		
Fabric-impressed	5	
Simple-stamped	1	
Plain exterior	1	
Unidentified treatment	20	
Total		27 ( 2%)
Mount Pleasant phase:		
Fabric-impressed	4	
Simple-stamped	2	
Plain exterior	17	
Unidentified treatment	9	
Total		32 ( 3%)
Hanover phase:		
Plain exterior	2	
Unidentified treatment	1	
Total		3 ( 0.02%)
Deep Creek phase:		
Cord-impressed	5	
Plain exterior	12	
Unidentified exterior	11	
Total		28 ( 2.98%)
Total ceramics		970 (100%)
CERAMIC TOBACCO PIPE SHERDS		2
LITHICS ARTIFACTS		
Projectile Points:		
Small Roanoke	1	
Probable Small Roanoke	1	
Total		2
Scrapers		2
Perforators		2
Hammerstones		4
Cores		4
Chippage:		
Chert	2	
Flint	2	
Quartz	14	
Quartzite	3	
Total		21
Total Lithics		35
Fire-cracked rock fragments		44
Total artifacts		1,071

Table II-3

## Comparison of Late Woodland Ceramic Surface Treatments

	Item Count	Percentage
Colington Ware		
Fabric-impressed	467	60.0%
Simple-stamped	35	4.5
Incised	4	0.5
Plain exterior	272	35.0
Total	778	100.0
Cashie Ware		
Fabric-impressed	147	44.0%
Simple-stamped	68	20.5
Incised	2	0.5
Plain exterior	115	35.0
Total	332	100.0

\* Note: The sherds analyzed were from surface collections, Feature 24, redeposited artifacts, and pit features. (see Table II-2, II-4, and II-5).

Surface collected artifacts indicate that various subsistence and settlement activities occurred at the site (Winters 1969). Although, the frequency of many of these artifact types was low, their presence suggests that 31BF115 served as the locus of various functional activities (Table II-1). Ceramics and fire-cracked rocks are artifacts associated with domestic activities. Food remains recovered from prehistoric features are indicative of various procurement and food processing and storage processes. General utility activities are represented by such tools as hammerstones and scrapers. A blade, probably a knife, was recovered from the plow zone - it also relates to utility activities. Scrapers are also used in domestic activities. Hammerstones are used in the performance of fabricating activities, e.g. lithic reduction. The presence of flakes, cores and unfinished bifaces and unifaces may be products and by-products of lithic tool production. The perforator tool is used in the fabricating and processing of raw materials. Weapons, i.e. the projectile points, are employed in fauna procurement and killing, e.g. warfare. Their use may have been related to both activities. The smoking pipe fragment is a possible indicator of ceremonial or recreational activities at 31BF115 (Winters 1969).

Except for the ceramics and projectile points, functional activities which took place at 31BF115 can not be assigned to a specific cultural occupation because of the lack of tools that are culturally diagnostic. It might be hypothesized, that the high frequency of Late Woodland ceramics would suggest that the main settlement history occurred during this time.

An examination of the cultural materials recovered from Feature 24, the redeposited oyster and artifact concentration at Beasley Point, reveals a similarity in temporal and functional characteristics. Colington and Cashie phase ceramics are the most frequent wares. Early and Middle Woodland ceramics are present, but in a limited frequency representation. The ceramics, perforator, smoking pipe fragment, and fire-cracked rock fragments represent settlement activities recorded in the site surface collection.

Recovery of artifact data from Feature 24 was conducted to recover diagnostic artifacts present along an unnamed stream at the northern edge of 31BF115, at Beasley Point (Table II-4). No collection was made at the eastern, or Bath Creek, edge of this large midden feature. The collection indicates that a main portion of the site once extended beyond the present day shore line.

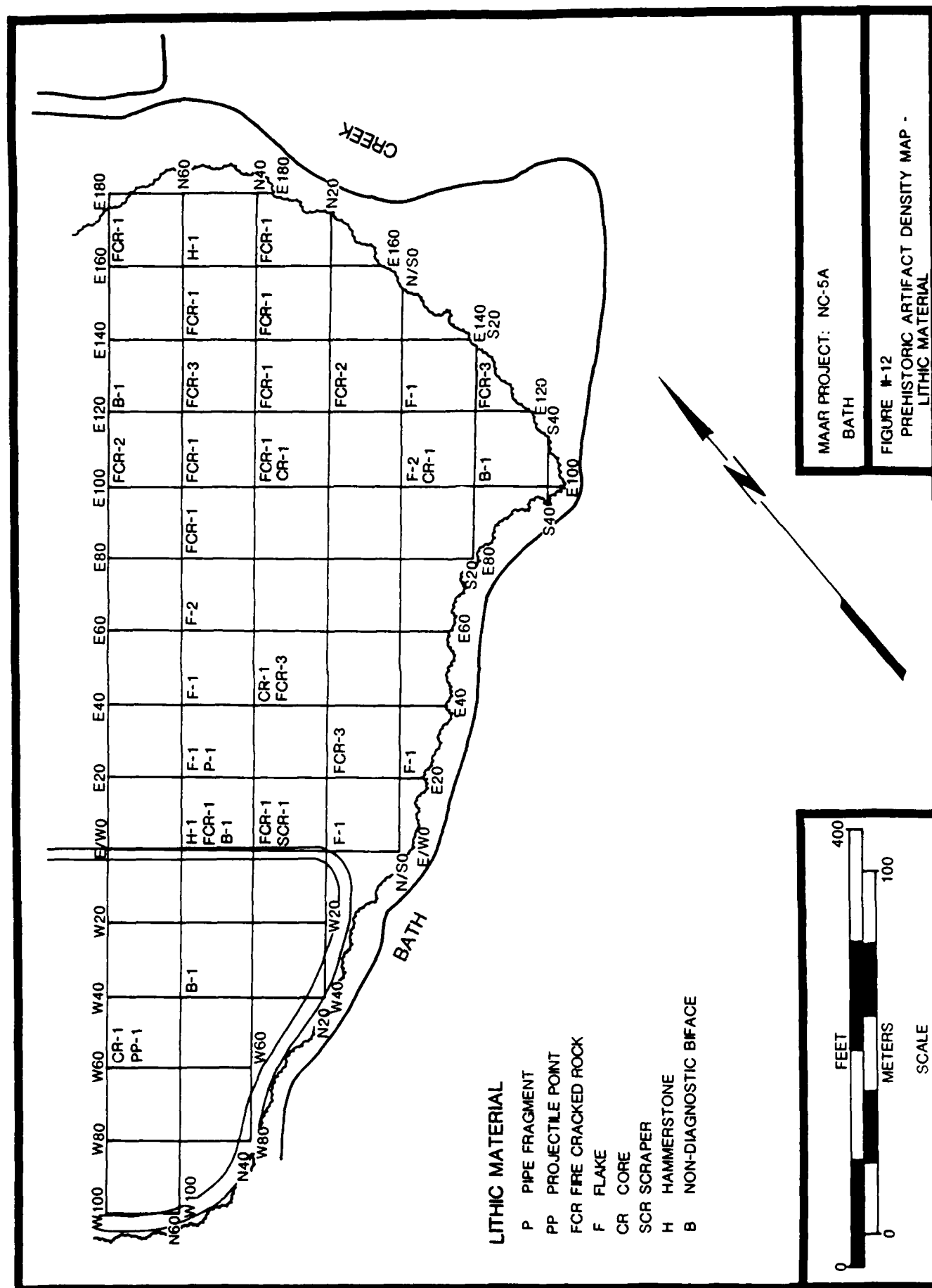
A map of intrasite distribution of the temporal and functional diagnostics at 31BF115 has been developed based on the controlled surface collection. The most useful distributional data are those of the Colington phase and Cashie phase wares, A.D. 800-1650. The Early and Middle Woodland period wares are represented by low artifact frequencies; no concentrations are present. They occur in the same units containing the Late Woodland period components, indicating commonality in settlement activity patterns. Lithic artifacts are low in frequency and quantitative analysis is not appropriate. Their presence and absence from general areas of the site basically correlates with Colington ware distribution patterns (Figure II-12).

Table II-4

## Feature 24 Prehistoric Artifact Classifications

CERAMIC SHERDS	ITEM COUNT	TOTALS
Colington phase:		
Fabric-impressed	85	
Simple-stamped	8	
Incised	1	
Plain exterior	59	
Unidentified treatment	46	
Total		199 (66%)
Cashie phase:		
Fabric-impressed	23	
Simple-stamped	23	
Incised	1	
Plain exterior	22	
Unidentified treatment	25	
Total		80 (26%)
Mount Pleasant phase:		
Fabric-impressed	3	
Plain exterior	5	
Unidentified treatment	1	
Total		9 ( 3%)
Hanover phase:		
Fabric-impressed	1	
Plain exterior	5	
Unidentified treatment	1	
Total		7 ( 2.4%)
Deep Creek phase:		
Fabric-impressed	2	
Cord-impressed	2	
Plain exterior	1	
Unidentified treatment	3	
Total		8 ( 2.6%)
Total ceramics		303 (100%)
CERAMIC TOBACCO PIPE SHERDS		2
LITHIC ARTIFACTS		
Perforator		1
Fire-cracked rock		1
Total artifacts		307





As seen in the distributional patterns for the Colington sherds the highest frequency of ceramics occur in the eastern section of the site (Figure II-13). This pattern is duplicated by the Cashie ceramics (Figure II-14). Considered in relationship with the Beasley Point redeposited cultural materials (Feature 24) and the associated subsurface investigations in the area, it appears that the site extends to the shore of the point.

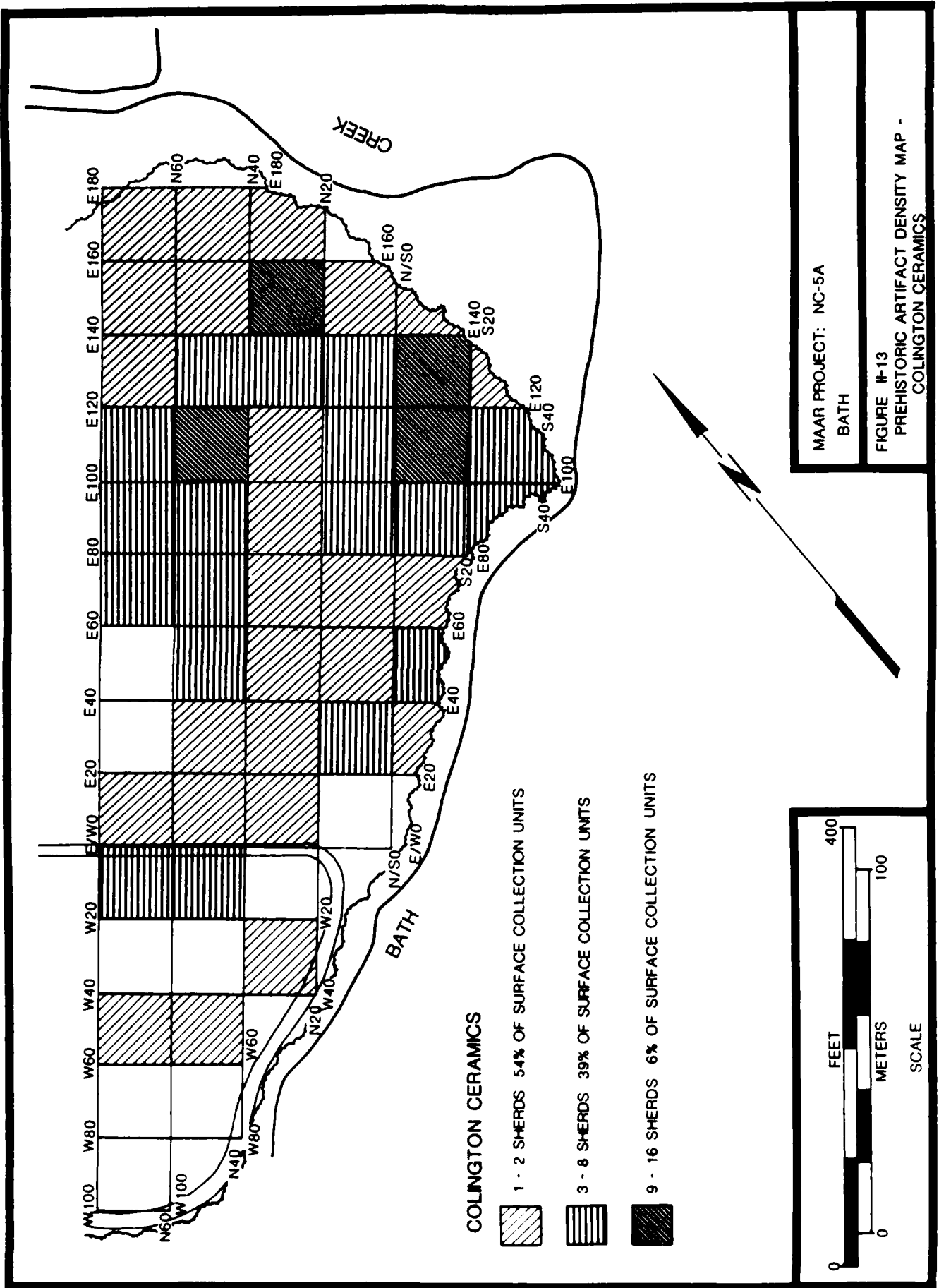
Within the cultivated section of the site, subsurface investigations verified contextual disturbance throughout the topsoil and often into the subsoil. The cultural materials recovered from the plow zone were from both the prehistoric and historic periods in a mixed context. Shovel Tests 7, 8, and 9 were placed in the wooded area next to Beasley Point to determine the extent of soil disturbance. Shovel Tests 7 and 8 recorded shallow disturbance to a depth between 0.4 to 0.6 ft (12 to 18 cm). The shallow depth may be due to early historic plowing, prior to modern deep plowing practices. No temporal stratification of cultural materials was recognized. Shovel Test 8 contained a wooden button in Stratum B, 0.2-0.6 ft (6-18 cm).

Based on the presence of cultural/temporal diagnostics, all of the features can be classified as affiliated with the Colington phase settlement activities. This interpretation is based on the exclusive recovery of Colington or of both Colington and Cashie wares. Because of the presence of broken ceramics and food remains, the pits have been interpreted to have been prepared for domestic activities and then abandoned and utilized for refuse disposal.

Most inland Colington phase settlements were located along bodies of water with high banks and fertile soils where swidden agriculture could be practiced. In these locations small to large base camps were established. Subsistence inventories included cultigens, bear, deer, and many forms of small animals as well as fish, turtle, and shellfish (Phelps 1983:40).

Subsurface features have received the least amount of disturbance. Six prehistoric pits were excavated either in part or completely (Table II-5). The following table quantifies the cultural materials and ethnofaunal remains that were recovered from various features. Feature 31, from which a considerable amount of faunal remains were recovered, was completely excavated and the fill water screened.

The data base for the prehistoric component at 31BF115 can be interpreted to suggest that a Late Woodland village was established and maintained. The large area of artifact distribution, high frequency of subsurface features, high percentage of Colington and Cashie wares, and the indication of multiple intrasite processes suggest substantial village. The presence of at least three partially reconstructible ceramic vessels of Colington ware in a single feature (Feature 31) attest to a semi-sedentary occupation. The diverse inventory of food remains identified suggests the village was occupied for an extended period of time. The food remains recovered from Features 1, 9, 26, 44, and particularly 31, all Colington phase refuse pits, indicate a broad spectrum of subsistence practices, as opposed to specialized seasonal food procurement. Two probable burned hickory nut shell fragments were



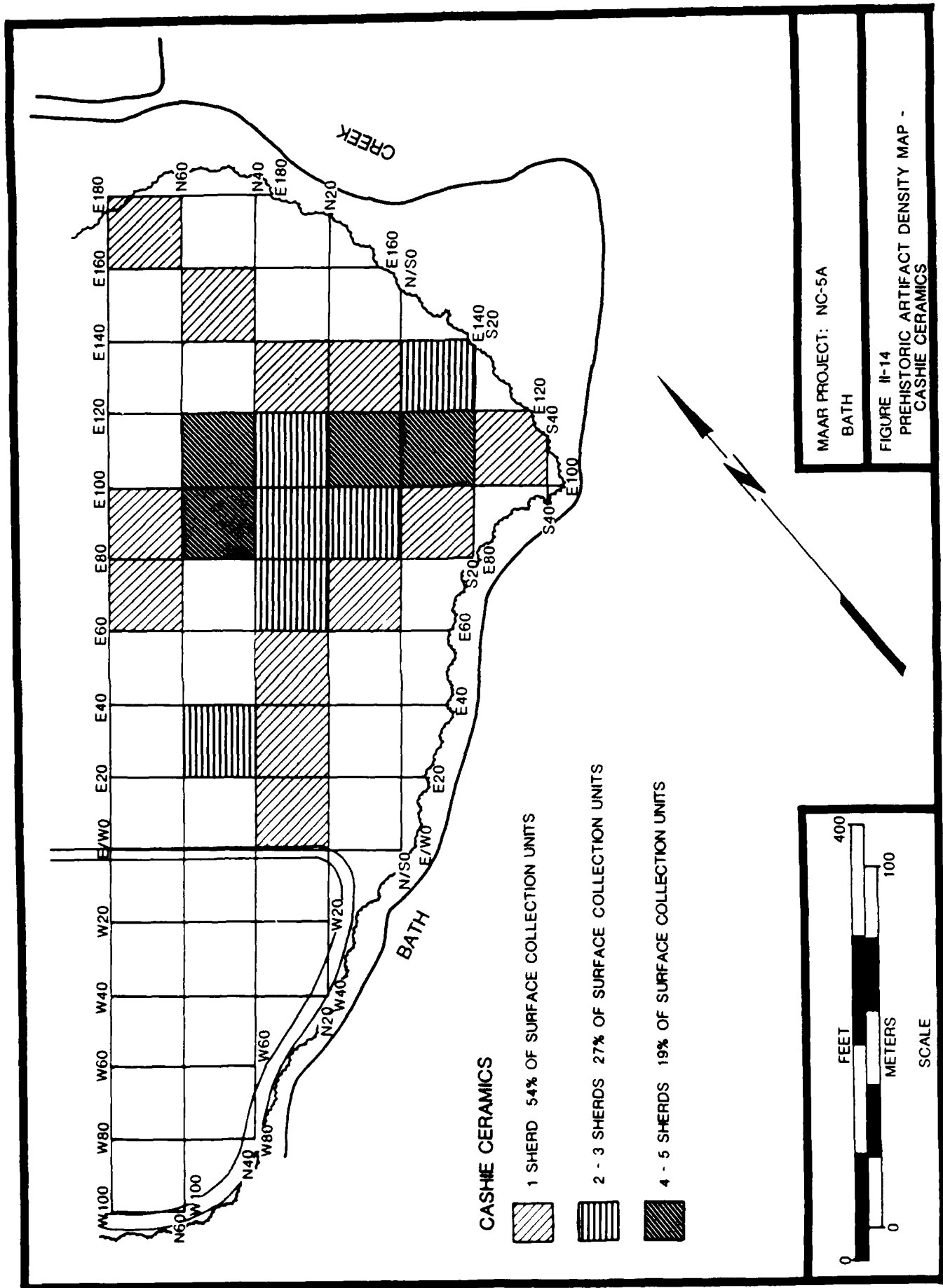


Table II-5

## 31BF115 Prehistoric Pit Features

	Feat. 1	Feat. 9	Feat. 26	Feat. 31	Feat. 42	Feat. 44
CERAMIC SHERDS						
Colington phase:						
Fabric-impressed	6	11	2	182	11	
Simple-stamped				1		
Plain exterior	3	5	5	14	1	
Unidentified treatment	1		1	2	2	
Totals	10	16	8	199	2	
Cashie phase:						
Fabric-impressed	3	1	3			
Simple-stamped					2	
Plain exterior	2		4	1		
Unidentified treatment			4			
Totals	5	1	18	1	2	
LITHIC ARTIFACTS						
Chippage		2		1		
ETHNOFAUNAL MATERIAL						
Deer bone	10	23	2	21*	2	1
Small mammal bone			2	2		
Fowl		6	2	48		
Fish				644		1
Turtle			3	65		1
Oyster		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes

recovered from Shovel Test 9; a test which produced Colington and Cashie wares. The presence of burned nuts suggests the possibility that other nuts and seeds may have been preserved by burning.

The presence of deer, small mammal, fowl, fish, turtle, oyster and possible hickory nut remains corresponds to the subsistence inventory defined by Phelps (1983:40) for inland villages. These foods would have been procured during the seasons of spring, summer, fall and possibly winter. The season for the harvesting of oysters in North Carolina is still under study (Claassen 1986:26). The procurement of clams was during the period of November through April. If this pattern was duplicated for oyster harvests, then procurement activities at 31BF115 could have gone on during the winter season. Data from other prehistoric contexts have verified the practice of oyster collecting during the summer months, however. It has been observed that Amerindian oyster harvests took place in the summer months when European contact was present (Claassen 1986:16). Either of these oyster procurement practices may have taken place during the Colington settlement at the site.

Phelps has hypothesized that villages in similar environmental settings to 31BF115 were involved in swidden agriculture (Phelps 1983:40). Although no cultigens were identified during field research, this does not preclude their presence. The environmental setting corresponds to locations where agricultural practices were maintained.

There is insufficient data to define the time of settlement within the Late Woodland period. However, one element in the data base should be mentioned. Several pieces of English (Dover Chert) and French flint debris, including a core and chippage, were recovered from a surface context. A French flint fragment has a concave attrition pattern which may represent a pick-up tool. These artifacts may be associated with historic activities at the site. But the question of contact should be kept in mind. Cotan, the Carolina Algonkian contact village, was located in the area. Phelps (personal communication 1986) believes that the village may be near the location of 31BF115. If so, the possibility of European lithics being utilized by Amerindians is a question for future research.

Colington villages often had associated ossuaries along with mortuary temples according to historic accounts (Harriot 1972). Previous excavations at aboriginal sites along the Chowan River have located from 38 to 58 individuals in mass burials (Phelps 1983:40-42). Although insufficient data is available to establish patterns useful for predicting the location of ossuaries within Colington settlements (Phelps 1983, personal communication), mass burials may occur in the northern sections of villages. No aboriginal interments were found at 31BF115. However, in consideration of the size of the settlement and its extended occupation period, it is probable that an ossuary was prepared at some time in the village's history and may exist at the site.

## 31BF115 Historic Data Base

Document research identifies historic occupation at 31BF115 beginning in the early eighteenth century. The possibility of earlier contact during the period of the Roanoke colony is possible but cannot be confirmed. The first documented occupation of 31BF115 occurred in 1714 with the development of the Governor Charles Eden plantation (see the Project Specific History section). Throughout the eighteenth century the plantation and land was sold and resold. In 1730, Edward Salter was both owner of the plantation and a merchant. Ownership continued to change until Texasgulf Chemical Company purchased the land in the 1970's. The date of abandonment of the plantation is not known. House remains were covered-over in the 1950's (Warren Harris, personal communication 1986).

The surface collection made at 31BF115 recovered historic artifacts representing a concentration of eighteenth century ceramics and functional types indicating domestic processes. The controlled surface collection has been analyzed (Table II-6) employing a functional taxonomic scheme developed by Stanley South (1977).

The Carolina Artifact Pattern is based upon frequency variations in artifacts as compared to known functional locals within historic sites, e.g. Kitchen refuse areas, domicile front and back yards. The pattern assumes the similar behavioral activities would yield similar artifact distributions. With this analytical technique, artifact distribution patterns can be compared to the Carolina Artifact Pattern, and behavior activities can be defined (South 1977:83-86).

Percentage patterns of the functional groups has been compared to patterns previously recognized for domestic sites in the colonial period of the two Carolinas. When compared (Table II-7) to the predicted group percentage range for the Carolina Artifact Pattern (South 1977:107), it is evident that although 31BF115 patterns differ from South's Carolina Artifact Pattern, they can be seen to generally correspond with South's data from similar sites in other parts of the Carolinas.

The Kitchen Group percentage of 31BF115 substantially exceeds the upper limit in the Carolina Artifact Pattern. Inversely, the Architecture Group is below the lower limits of the pattern. Remaining groups have percentages that conform or approximate the ranges predicted.

When the spatial distributions of the Kitchen and Architectural Group artifacts (Figures II-15 and II-16) are plotted by the controlled surface collection units an obvious concentration of these artifacts is revealed. This concentration is located in the vicinity of Feature 34, the brick rubble fill interpreted as a cellar hole. A comparison of the group percentages from the Feature 34 concentration (Table II-8) with the Carolina Artifact Pattern, reveals a close correlation. The Architectural Group percentage is well within the range and the Kitchen Group is still somewhat elevated above the upper limit.

Table II-6

31BF115 Historic Functional Groups:  
Surface Collections

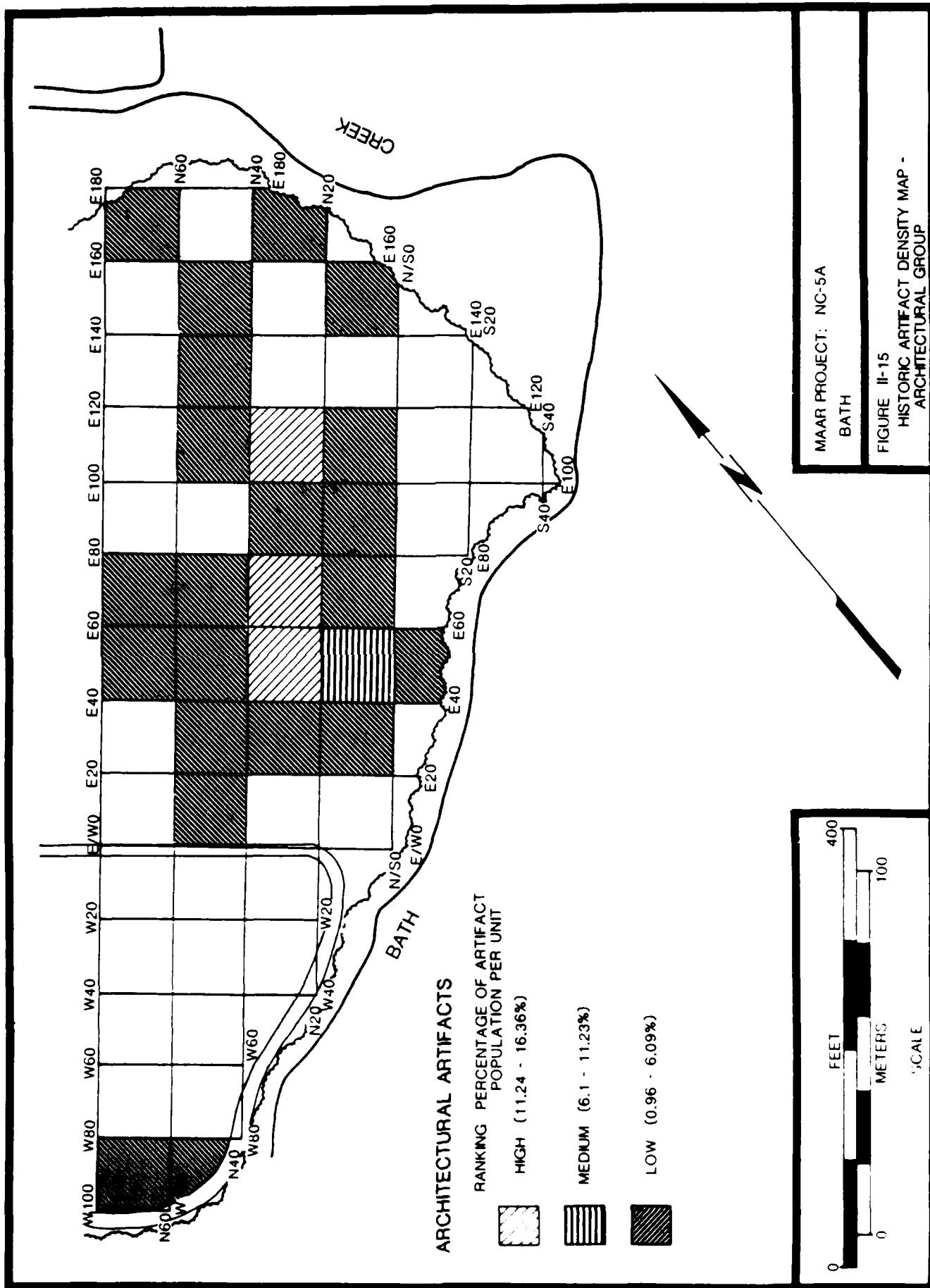
TAXONOMIC GROUPS	Artifact count	Percentage of Artifacts
Kitchen	916	79.4%
Architectural	152	13.2
Furniture	8	0.7
Arms	1	0.09
Personal	5	0.4
Smoking pipes	44	4.0
Activities	28	2.21
Total	1154	100.0

Table II-7

Artifact Pattern Comparison:  
31BF115 and Carolina Artifact Pattern

TAXONOMIC GROUP	31BF115 Percentages	Carolina Artifact Pattern Percentage Ranges
Kitchen	79.40%	51.8-69.2%
Architecture	13.20	19.7-31.4
Furniture	0.70	0.1- 0.6
Arms	0.09	0.1- 1.2
Clothing	0.00	0.6- 5.4
Personal	0.40	0.1- 0.5
Tobacco pipes	4.00	1.8-13.9
Activities	2.21	0.9- 2.7





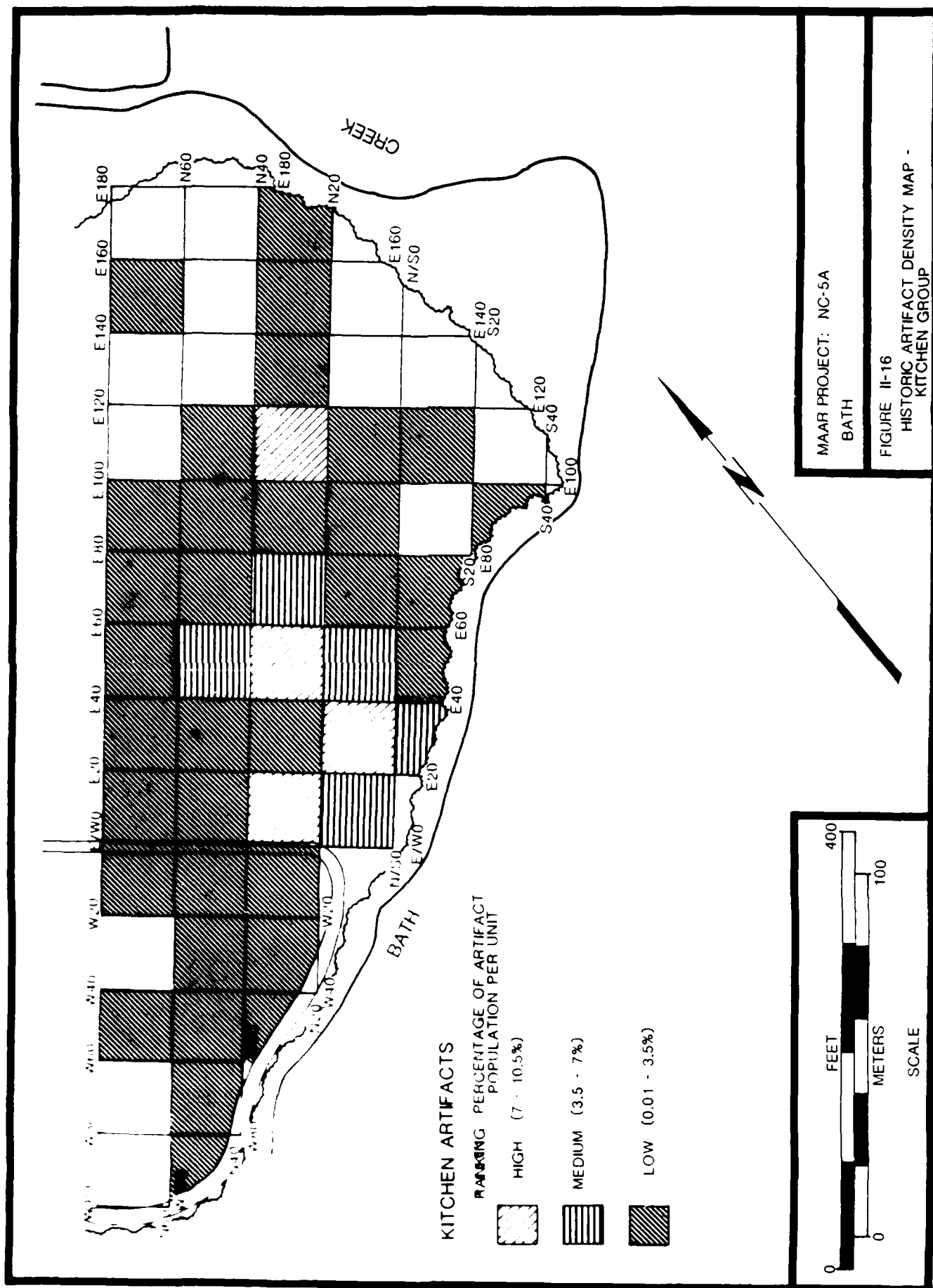


Table II-8

Artifact Pattern Comparison:  
Feature 34 Concentration and Carolina Artifact Pattern

TAXONOMIC GROUP	31BF115	Carolina Artifact Pattern
Kitchen	76%	51.8-69.2%
Architecture	24	19.7-31.4

The correlation between 31BF115 percentages and the those of the pattern is close enough to suggest that the historic occupation corresponds to the Carolina Artifact Pattern. Thus, it basically conforms with the patterns recorded by Stanley South for Colonial homes in the Carolinas. The elevated ceramic percentage might be related to the activities on the Salter plantation in 1730. He was a merchant as well as a plantation owner. Possibly ceramic merchandise was more accessible to the occupants of the site. The discarding of broken vessels on site could increase the number of sherds above the normal range expected.

A mean ceramic date of 1774 for the historic component of the site correlates with the eighteenth occupation documentation. The date places a substantial portion of the site's occupation history within the Colonial period. The dating process excluded the red earthen wares and whitewares from the calculation because of their broad manufacturing dates which would skew the date. If whitewares were included, the mean ceramic date would be 1808.

The general concentration of the architectural artifacts is in the proximity of the buried brick rubble remains, Feature 34. The limits of the rubble have not been defined on the north, west, and south. Two units with high artifact percentages are located to the north and west of the feature. The kitchen artifact concentration is more dispersed from the feature but is located in units in the general proximity. Such a greater spatial distribution would be expected resulting from yard scatters and peripheral refuse deposits. The Personal Group artifacts also occur within the general area of the concentrations identified.

Based on these patterns it is possible to interpret the rubble deposit as being related to domestic activities, i.e. the location of the plantation residence. This interpretation coincides with the information supplied by Warren Harris (personal communication 1986). He recalls the location of the residence to have been in the general area. He locates it approximately 65 ft (20 m) north of the rubble, but he said his memory is not precise, because of the time interval since the filling of the foundation.

Feature 11 is the brick foundation remains standing on the Bath Creek shore line. The brick wall is English bonding with rows of

headers and stretchers. The use of English bonding in basements and exterior walls dates into the eighteenth century (Noel Hume 1978:84) but was retained later in upper class structures. The excavation of the interior fill and builder's trench recorded the contents to be of a mixed context. Both prehistoric and historic artifacts were recovered in association. Thus no clear cut differentiation of deposits was identified.

Artifacts ranged in date from Late Woodland through the twentieth century. The builder's trench fill contained only prehistoric diagnostics, Late Woodland ceramics. Historic cultural materials were also recovered but they were non-datable architectural remains, e.g. brick fragments. It is apparent that the interior fill was obtained outside of the structure as a result of abandonment, intentional filling, flooding and beach erosion. The builder's trench fill was obtained from surrounding soil containing prehistoric deposits. Additional artifact analysis would not yield meaningful information.

The building may have been used with the on and off-loading of supplies and merchandise for the plantation. Its location at the shoreline could indicate building was involved in water transport activities. In Colonial times water navigation was the principal means of transport. Feature 46, the ballast dump, is located in the creek and on line with the building. The two features might have serviced a pier facility.

Three post holes have been classified as historic, Features 10, 35, and 43. This identification was based on the cultural materials recorded from the matrices. No pattern was recognized for the post holes; however, they may have been part of pierced structures once associated with the plantation.

Based on informant accounts (Tankard, personal communication 1986) Feature 47, the Iron Rail site, is a modern installation related to the draining of the nearby fields. No additional information was obtained to counter this statement.

Subsequent to MAAR Associates, Inc. excavations at 31BF115 the historic graves recorded were excavated by the Division of Archives and History, Archaeology Branch, under the supervision of Steve Claggett, Billy Oliver, and John Clauser. Upon the request of the Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers, information on this work was conveyed for inclusion in this report. The following is taken from conversations with Steve Claggett and Billy Oliver.

Feature 25, a brick vault with remains of a wooden coffin, contained the human remains of a adult male. The interior surface of the brick enclosure was plastered smooth. Coffin nails were found throughout the vault. Information on the structure has been described earlier (Figure II-4, II-5 & II-6). The remains were in a state of good preservation, perhaps due to the plaster lining of the vault (Plate II-9). The deceased was estimated to have been 40 to 42 years of age at death, Caucasian, and of European descent. He was right-handed and had experienced anemia as a child. The skeleton showed evidence of pronounced periodontal disease at the time of death.



PLATE II-9: Burial (Feature 25)

(Source: Photos Courtesy of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources,  
Division of Archives and History)

Heavy tooth wear was evident on the skeleton. A circular stain, located on the left side of the chest of the interred, measured 2.5 to 3.0 inches in diameter.

Feature 27 was a coffin interment containing the remains of a young Black female (William Oliver, personal communication 1986). The deceased was carrying a full-term fetus at the time of death. Death may have occurred due to child birth complications. The age at death of this individual is estimated at about 20 to 25 years. Skeletal remains were in relatively poor condition (Plate II-10). The interment dates to ca. 1894. The identification of this person as a young Black female who died ca. 1894 suggests that she was probably a member of a tenant family residing on this John R. Beasley property. Research, however, failed to identify the family residing on the property during Beasley's ownership.

The coffin in which this individual was interred is considered relatively ornate with frills. It was of a shouldered form and nails and other hardware were recovered.

Two Indian Head pennies had been placed over the eyes of this female, the coins dated 1891 and 1894. Around the body were found shroud pins of a safety pin variety. Also found with the deceased was a cologne bottle, labeled "Hoy's", lying near the right tibia/fibula; a silver hair pin (3") near the cranium; and assorted buttons. On the chest of the female was an oval ferrous stain.

Further information on these interments can be obtained through the Archaeology Branch of the North Carolina Division of Archives and History.

#### 31BF117 Soil Stratigraphy

The natural soil stratigraphy of 31BF117 appears to be quite similar to that described at 31BF115. Reference to that description is suggested.

#### 31BF117 Data Summary

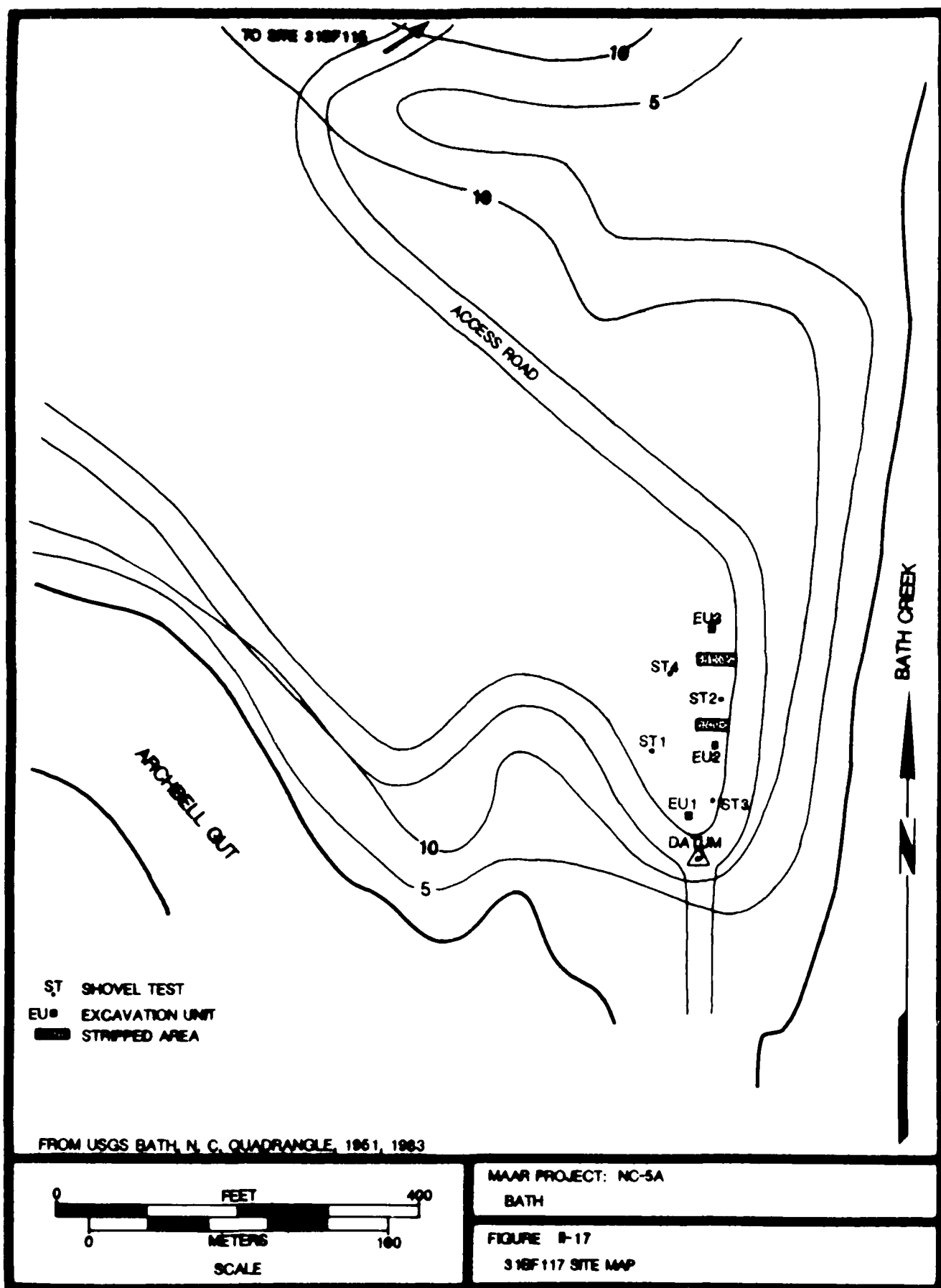
A surface collection of 31BF117 was conducted and four shovel tests along with three excavation units were excavated during the Phase I field investigations (Figure II-17). In addition, two transects were mechanically stripped. All cultural materials were recovered from a plow disturbed soil context. Except for the surface collection, cultural materials were Amerindian. The historic artifacts are nineteenth century in origin. They consist of ceramics, a bottle glass fragment, and brick fragments.

A total of 123 prehistoric sherds were recovered. Seventy-six were classified as being Colington phase ware and 45 were associated with the Cashie phase, both from the Late Woodland Period. One Hanover phase sherd was identified representing the Middle Woodland period. No culturally diagnostic lithic artifacts were recovered. A possible core and five chips were found. Both quartz and flint materials were used. Fire-cracked rock fragments were present. The recovery of several



PLATE II-10: Burial (Feature 27)

(Source: Photos Courtesy of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources,  
Division of Archives and History)





burned nut fragments indicate that subsistence practices included the probable harvesting of maturing nuts during the late summer through fall seasons. A tentative identification of the hulls as hickory is being made. There is no indication as to which cultures were involved in the harvests. The prehistoric artifact types by frequency are presented in Table II-9.

Table II-9

## 31BF117 Prehistoric Artifact Classifications

	Surface	ST.#1	ST.#2	ST.#3	EU.#1	EU.#2	EU.#3
CERAMIC SHERDS							
Colington phase:							
Fabric-impressed	7		2		3	9	
Simple-stamped						3	
Plain exterior	17	1			5	13	6
Unidentified treatment	3			1		1	5
Colington Totals	27	1	2	1	8	26	11
Cashie phase:							
Fabric-impressed	2				3	4	3
Simple-stamped	3		1				1
Plain exterior	7	2			2	5	5
Unidentified treatment				1		3	3
Cashie Totals	12	2	1	1	5	12	12
Hanover phase:							
Fabric						1	
Unidentified sand-tempered							1
LITHICS ARTIFACTS							
Chippage:							
Quartz					1		2
Quartzite						1	
Flint							1
Core:							
Quartz						1	
Fire-cracked rocks	5					2	2
ETHNOBOTANICAL ITEMS							
Burned nut shells						5	

## SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### Summary of Investigations

Phase I and II archaeological investigations were conducted along Bath Creek in Beaufort County, North Carolina in a project area owned by the Texasgulf Chemicals Company. Two sites were identified, 31BF115 and 31BF117. Field investigations consisted of surface collecting, shovel testing, unit excavation, and topsoil stripping. Both sites were found to contain prehistoric components and 31BF115 contained historic components as well. Surface and subsurface prehistoric cultural deposits, including features, were located at 31BF115. No features were found at 31BF117. Historic artifacts, in-ground historic structural remains and two historic burials were identified at 31BF115.

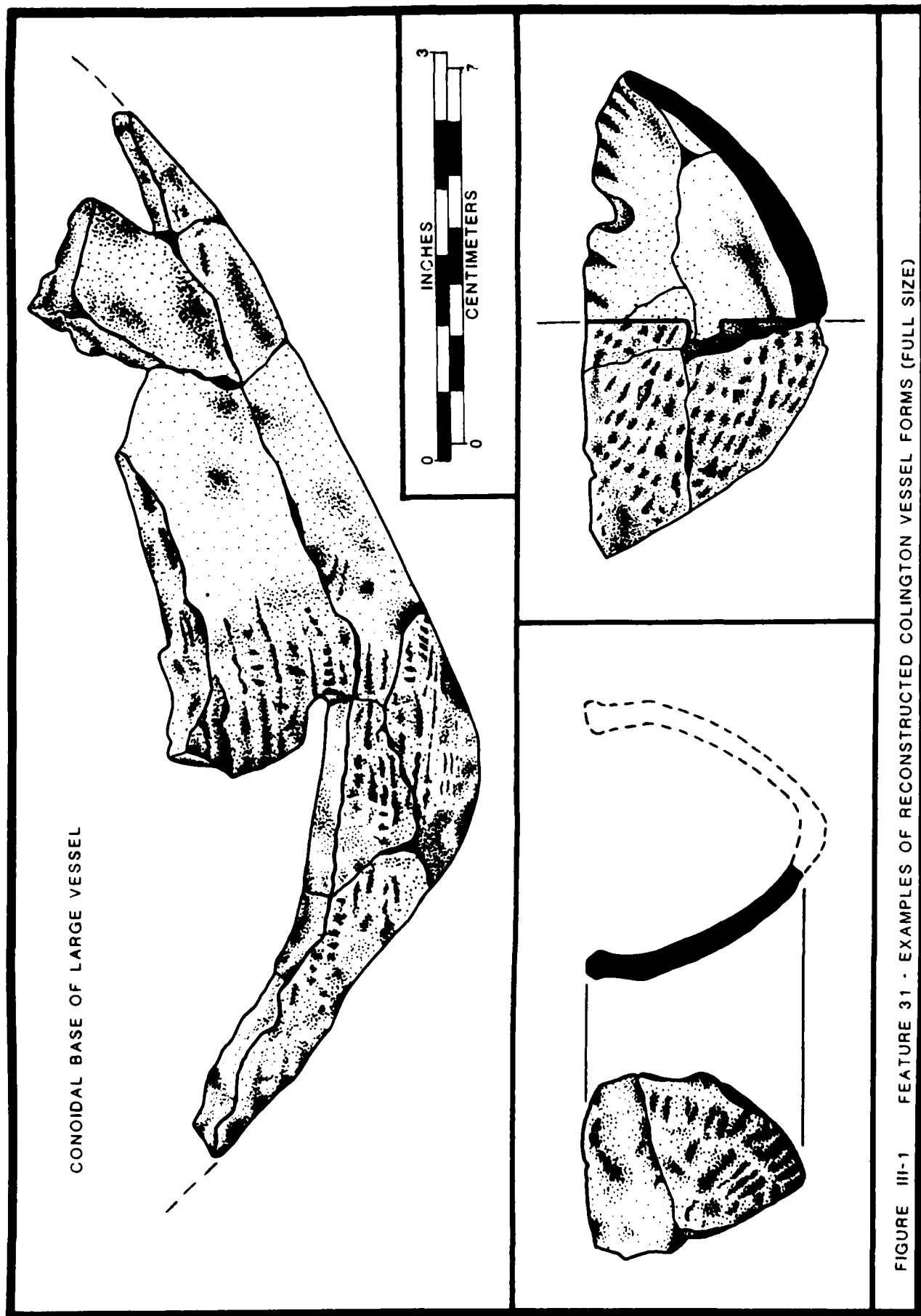
Analysis of each site indicated that the prehistoric components basically dated from the Late Woodland period, with minor occupations representing Archaic Period and Early and Middle Woodland period cultures. The 31BF115 historic component appeared to begin during the eighteenth century and continued through the nineteenth century. The historic occupations were associated with residences and plantations operated as part of the community of Bath. Charles Eden, an North Carolina governor, was an early land owner in the project area.

### Discussion of the Results

The prehistoric components at the two sites were primarily associated with the Woodland period, circa 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1650. Both of the sites were mainly inhabited during the Late Woodland period, A.D. 800 to 1650. Field research at 31BF115 led to the recovery of a substantial quantity of artifacts. Several intra-settlement system processes were identified. Subsurface features were found preserved in the subsoil.

The data base from 31BF117 was recovered from a disturbed context and no subsurface features were encountered. The frequency of artifacts and functional diagnostics was low, revealing little information concerning the intra-settlement system processes.

Analysis of the 31BF115 data base identified cultural diagnostics affiliated with cultures from the Early through Late Woodland periods. In addition, several stemmed projectile points were found in surface context that date to the Archaic Period. The principal habitation period was between A.D. 800-1650 when Colington phase peoples inhabited the Tidewater region of northern North Carolina. Colington shell-tempered ware was the dominant ceramic type in the artifact assemblage, as is illustrated by portions of several nearly complete vessels of this type (Figure III-1). In association with the Colington ceramics at 31BF115 was the contemporaneous Cashie phase ware, a grit-tempered ceramic. Cashie phase settlements occur throughout the adjoining Inner Coastal Plain and the presence of their ceramics in Colington phase sites is hypothesized to be the product of intra-group contact, i.e. trade.



Food remains recovered from Colington phase refuse pits indicate the settlement system was based on a broad subsistence base. The aquatic and dry land native food sources being exploited at the site would have been available year round. Based on settlement/subsistence models, previously hypothesized, swidden agriculture may have been practiced, supplementing native food resources. Synthesized, this data can be interpreted to suggest that the site was inhabited for an extended period of time, either as a multi-seasonal or a permanent settlement.

An adequate settlement history of the Colington phase has not been developed for the region; it could have continued until circa A.D. 1650. Although sufficient empirical data has not been developed to support his interpretation, it is possible that a settlement may have been present within the study area during the sixteenth century and there might have been contact with the European colony on Roanoke Island. Tradition places the Algonkian village, Cotan, in the area around the present day town of Bath. Lithics of European origin were recovered from the 31BF115 indicating that fabricating processes were practiced. As to the cultural/temporal affiliation for these activities, no data is present. The lithic debris may have originated from the prehistoric or historic components of the site.

Although the historic component at 31BF115 had a mean ceramic date of 1774, occupation has been documented as beginning in the early eighteenth century and continuing to the late nineteenth century. Surface collections produced a high frequency of artifacts from the site, primarily the northern half adjacent to Bath Creek. Historic features included two structural remains and two burials, one of which was within a brick enclosure. The exposed structural remains almost certainly relate to the documented eighteenth century plantation and its residence. The style of brick bonding used in the exterior walls for the on-shore building dates to the eighteenth century and brick from both features was hand made, possibly dating to the early eighteenth century.

No additional information was recovered indicating the locations of other structures that might have been related to the plantation. Three post holes were identified as possibly being of historic origin. Their purpose could not be determined. Map studies indicate that several buildings existed in the general vicinity of the post holes. The brick foundation (Feature 11) on the shore line may be part of a storage facility related to the loading and unloading of water transported supplies and merchandise. A pier probably existed with which both Feature 11 and Feature 46 may have been associated. The rock concentration might pertain to structural deposits or the accumulation of discarded ship ballast.

Functional patterns within the material culture data base has an order which appears to conform with the Carolina Artifact Pattern, a pattern hypothesized to reveal aspects of the residential processes from Colonial lifeways. These functional patterns are the material product of socio-economic practices from the plantation system and its

residence. The activity patterns recorded reflect the lifeways of various owners which includes Governor Eden and the merchant, Edward Salter.

#### Resource Significance and Research Potential

Of the two sites within the project area, 31BF115 can be considered to be potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The criteria for establishing this evaluation is given in 36 CFR 60.4. National Register nomination forms have been completed. The cultural record contains information that is likely to yield important information pertaining to the Late Woodland period in prehistory and early plantation history of the northern Tidewater region of North Carolina. Evaluation of the data base associated with 31BF117 does not meet these criteria.

This evaluation of the significance of 31BF115 is based on the following observations. Specific recommendations for further research are presented on page ??.

Prehistoric component - Only a limited number of Colington phase sites have been archaeologically investigated. There is a need to study a range of settlement types by region and establish the respective intra-settlement socio-economic processes and patterns. These intra-settlement processes need to be studied in relation to their regional environment, i.e. catchment area. In situ settlement system changes through time need to be recognized and explained (Phelps, personal communication 1986). 31BF115, which consists of a Colington phase inland base camp with a broad subsistence base, has demonstrated the potential to contribute information pertaining to these questions.

Surface collecting of disturbed artifact scatters and examination of several in situ subsurface features have demonstrated the existence of both material culture and food remains pertaining to settlement practices in a Colington inland village. An intensive investigation of the surface artifact distributional patterns and excavation of the subsurface features within the site may help in the defining of intra-settlement processes and the associated subsistence patterns, possibly from a diachronic perspective.

Because of the presence of Early and Middle Woodland cultural materials, it is possible that intensive research may develop information relating to these cultures and their respective settlement/subsistence practices. If this information is present, it would make an important contribution to the prehistory the northern Tidewater region. It has been hypothesized that Woodland cultures developed in situ (Phelps, personal communication 1986); however, additional information is needed to test this hypothesis. Research at 31BF115 has the potential to contribute the required information.

Historic component - Substantial remains of an eighteenth century plantation and residence are preserved at 31BF115. Historic documents indicate that Governor Charles Eden, prominent in Colonial and regional history, established his residence there. Later, Edward Salter,

plantation owner and merchant, owned the property. Besides these owners, other individuals resided and operated plantations which may provide differing material culture patterns. If so, the study of this cultural record could provide information concerning social and economic change.

The historic data recovered during the Phase I and II investigations indicates that socio-economic behavioral patterns produced by a sequence of Colonial plantation operations and associated residences are partially preserved in the cultural record. The data base corresponds to the Carolina Artifact Pattern recognized for Colonial residences. A 1774 mean ceramic date reflects an intensive occupation during the late Colonial period. Two in-ground structural remains represent a possible main residence and a storage building; others may be present.

Situated in the vicinity of the town of Bath, the plantation was an important element in the town's economy. Both Governor Eden and the merchant, Edward Salter, may have constructed on-site facilities related to their commercial enterprises such as warehouses, piers or landings, and refuse deposits for damaged or broken goods. These features have the potential to contribute to our understanding of commercial trade activities associated with Bath as a port of entry.

#### Impact Assessment

Planned improvements in the project area includes the construction of a 2700 linear feet bulkhead to arrest shore line erosion. The construction of the bulkhead will also involve the excavation of borrow pits within the project area. This construction has the potential of adversely impacting the culturally significant prehistoric and historic components associated with 31BF115. No adverse effect will occur to site 31BF117, since the site has not been recommended as culturally significant.

At 31BF115 buried prehistoric cultural features identified within the site are largely intact. Preserved in these features are important information pertaining to the settlement/subsistence practices associated with Woodland period cultures, particularly the Colington phase. In addition, although disturbed by repeated cultivation, the topsoil contains temporal/functional information concerning intra-settlement processes which may be correlated with subsurface features.

In-ground historic building remains and two historic burials have been located. With the buried features will be additional structural remains that were part of the plantation complex. Also, activity area discard concentrations, privies, wells, refuse deposits, and possibly additional burials will be located within the plantation boundaries.

Disturbance of these deposits will adversely impact the site's culturally significant components. Based on the identification of the shore line building foundation and on-shore redeposited cultural

materials as well as the excavations on Beasley Point, it is evident that the buried cultural record extends to the edge of the field including the tree line and wooded areas.

### Recommendations

1. No additional research is recommended for 31BF117.
2. The prehistoric and historic components of 31BF115 are considered to be significant and have research potential.

Cultural resource management recommendations are:

- a. The site should be avoided during construction of the proposed bulkhead.
- b. If avoidance is not possible, then mitigative research should be completed prior to the start of construction.
- c. Mitigative activities should take the form of data recovery research. These investigations should center around a research design which will recover a representative sample of the prehistoric and historic cultural records within 31BF115.

### Data Recovery Research Topics

Prehistoric - The data recovery research plan can examine Woodland period settlement/subsistence practices and define patterns of continuity and change.

1. Ethnohistoric accounts can be used to construct hypotheses concerning the Colington phase intra-settlement processes, activity areas, and structures. Based on historic accounts pertaining to Carolina Algonkian villages, it can be hypothesized that concentrated villages were fortified, had ossuaries, burial houses, shrines, ceremonial activity areas, residences, and cultivated fields.

Specific questions to be addressed include the existence and nature of village defensive fortifications, the location and nature of ossuaries or other burial features, the settlement plan of the village itself (house location, central plaza, special-function buildings, types of residential structures). In addition, contact phenomena should be addressed including questions of trade, modifications in internal social patterns, adoption of new and abandonment of traditional material items and behavioral practices, and the reflection of new socio-political orders through mortuary practices.



2. Research concepts developed by David Phelps concerning the interrelationships between peoples of Tidewater and Inland settlements can be critically examined by correlating the information developed from ethnohistoric accounts and the archaeological data base at 31BF115 and other sites investigated by Phelps. This can address settlement subsistence concepts related to resource procurement, dietary practices, seasonality, and processing procedures. In addition to these questions, the socio-political interrelationships between the Colington peoples of the Tidewater and the Cashie peoples of the Inland regions can be approached at 31BF115, where both types of ceramic wares are found. Very few sites within Beaufort County have been professionally examined in such detail.
3. Site 31BF115 may permit a study of Early and Middle Woodland cultural patterns to examine the settlement subsistence practices maintained at the site. Practices can be examined both synchronically and diachronically to determine patterns of continuity and change as they took place in the Woodland period. Intra-settlement processes can be examined also, to trace pattern development. Information developed by these analyses can be used to address the question of in situ cultural development in the north Tidewater region.
4. The eighteenth century settlement and culture of Tidewater North Carolina is relatively unstudied in whole and 31BF115 provides an opportunity to recover data pertaining to a wide range of socio-economic phenomena of this period. These include the following:
  - a. A major question concerns early contact and relationships between European traders settlers and the native Indian population. Contemporary accounts relate a stormy relationship which may or may not reflect the actual situation. 31BF115 contains direct evidence of possible European/Indian contact.
  - b. Early European adaptations to the Tidewater environment are not adequately understood. Even though the area was settled relatively late, the manner in which established land use practices were modified to the contingencies of the Pamlico Sound area should be studied.
  - c. The nature of eighteenth century Tidewater plantation operations, in relation to land use practices, commerce, intra-plantation building patterns, and other aspects of the plantation lifestyle has been studied in many areas of the Southeast; however, little is known about Pamlico Sound plantations. Information from 31BF115 can be used to supplement that now being recovered from other sites in the region to construct a cultural record that can be compared to other parts of the Southeast.

- d. Of particular interest should be the manner in which the early owners of the study area related their plantation agricultural activities to their commercial and political careers. Governor Charles Eden's ownership of the plantation at 31BF115 should be thoroughly studied. The fact that several documented owners of the plantation can be considered as wealthy and influential should allow the recovery of data pertaining to contrasting lifestyles within a single study unit - owners and operatives.
- e. The nineteenth century occupation of 31BF115 appears to be a continuation of the eighteenth century use of the study area property. The manner in which change occurred at this continuously operated plantation can be of great interest and can provide insights into change within the Southeast during the period of the adoption, flourishing, and downfall of slave-operated agricultural systems. Plantation economics were apparently fluid within the area, allowing successful operation of the system during periods of enforced change. Archaeological research at 31BF115 can address questions pertaining to this fluidity.

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